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OPS asks for input in search for new superintendent

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Otsego Public Schools superintendent Jeff Haase recently announced his plans to retire following the conclusion of the current school year, thereby bringing to an end his 11-year tenure with the district.

And while Haase will remain on the job until June 30, members of the Otsego Board of Education have turned their attention to finding his replacement.

The Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB), a service organization that supports the work of school boards throughout Michigan, is assisting the Board in this process.

As the Board of Education progresses in its search for a new superintendent, its seven members are seeking input from the community and OPS staff to help develop the profile of the ideal candidate.

Residents of the district, school families and all staff are encouraged to participate in the process.

To facilitate the collection of input, the OPS Board of Education has developed an online survey. The survey, which can be found at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/otsegosearch, is currently available and will remain so until Monday, Jan. 27.

Responses from the survey are sent directly to MASB in Lansing for tabulation.

The Board will publicly consider the input received and develop a Candidate Profile. This profile will then be used to guide the process as candidates are recruited and selected for public interview.

Along with taking the survey, OPS officials are encouraging all district stakeholders to meet with the MASB consultant in person at an additional input session. The community and family session is set for Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2025 from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. at the Washington Street Elementary Media Center.

That same day, district staff and students will meet with the representative at an earlier time.

The Board of Education will review all input at a special meeting on Jan. 28, at 6:30 p.m. in the Administration Office Board Room.

The remainder of the timeline for the superintendent search is as follows:

- Thursday, March 13: Selection of first-round interview candidates.
- Saturday, March 22: First-round interviews (all interviews are public and attendance is encouraged).
- Tuesday, March 25: Second-round interviews and candidate selection.
- Tuesday, July 1: New superintendent officially begins at Otsego Public Schools Otsego.

Plainwell Community Schools opens new field house

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

It was an event that was more than five years in the making.

After voters passed a bond in 2019 for its funding, Plainwell Community Schools' new athletic field house made its debut on Friday, Jan. 10.

Featuring a basketball tripleheader with archrival Otsego—freshmen girls followed by varsity girls and finally varsity boys—admission was free as a way to allow community members to see the new facility.

In addition to the gym, the field house also boasts a new swimming pool and an indoor walking/running track.

Plainwell Community Schools superintendent Matthew Montange addressed the crowd prior to the start of the boys varsity game to express the district's gratitude.

The new Plainwell Community School Field House can be seen during the varsity boys basketball game with Otsego on Friday, Jan. 10. (Photo provided)

"It was a really nice evening," Montange said. "We had a great turnout and it gave us a good feel for hosting a large event. Everyone in attendance really seemed to enjoy the evening and our Plainwell folks were clearly proud of the new facility.

"The main take away for me was the sense of relief that we are finally able to use the facility after five years of planning and work."

Montange said he heard from several of those in attendance.

"There were lots of positive and appreciative comments from those in attendance," he said. "Most people were thrilled that we can finally use the facility."

The fact that Otsego was the opponent for the night only added to the evening's atmosphere.

"It was fun to open against Otsego," Montange said. "We appreciate the friendly rivalry with them and they are typically our biggest event in terms of attendance."

After Montange addressed the crowd, the Gilkey Elementary School choir sang the National Anthem.

"That was my favorite part of the evening," Montange said of the choir's rendition of the Star Spangled Banner. "Mr. Oostdyk and his students did a wonderful job."

■ see **Field House**, Page A8

Otsego High School hosts Winter Guard Field Day

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

For one day, Otsego will be the color guard capital of Michigan.

Winter Guard Field Day—featuring 15 color guard teams from throughout the state—will take place on Saturday, Jan. 18, at Otsego High School.

The event starts at 4 p.m., with doors opening at 2 p.m. Cost is $5, with proceeds benefiting the Otsego band program.

Otsego Band Booster co-president Kelley Dendel is excited about the opportunity to host more than 200 color guard students, ranging in age from middle school to college.

"My favorite part about color guard is probably the same as my favorite part of the marching season: watching music come to life with so many different varieties of movement and artistic style," Dendel said. "And I love the joy on the faces of our students, seeing them come to life doing exactly what they love."

Winter Guard Field Day is a precursor to the color guard competition season. Judges will be present and offering critiques, but no official scores will be given.

"Field Day allows performers to gain performance experience in a more relaxed, non-competitive atmosphere," Otsego color guard instructor Issa Lewis said. "Performers will use traditional color guard equipment such as flags, rifles and sabres, as well as other props and dance to convey the emotional content of their program."

Teams also have the option to perform their program twice in order to get more practice and additional feedback from judges.

"Spectators will no doubt enjoy seeing these young people bring music to life with creativity, skill and emotion," Lewis said.

"Watching teams at Field Day is also a great opportunity to glimpse the process of creating these programs.

"As this is the first performance opportunity of the 2025 season, teams will just be in the beginning stages of putting together their programs, and it is very gratifying to see them develop and grow over the course of the next two to three months."

This is the first in-person Winter Guard Field Day since 2019. The 2020 event was cancelled due to weather, and 2021 was a completely virtual season due to COVID.

"We returned to in-person events in 2022, but had no bids to host an in-person Field Day until the Otsego Band Boosters took up the cause," Lewis said.

By hosting events such as Winter Guard Field Day, the Otsego Band Boosters are able to keep the cost of participating in band as low as possible for the district's students.

"The Otsego Band Boosters work tirelessly to make sure that our students are offered the best music education possible at little or no cost to the families," Dendel said. "In Otsego our students do not pay to play like many area schools.

"I have heard that it can cost some families $1,500 or more per student just for marching band in many of our area schools. We are proud to say that our students pay nothing to be in marching band. They of course have some basic supplies that we ask each family to cover—shoes, gloves, theme shirts—but again, if a family is in need of assistance we are prepared to assist."

The Band Boosters also want to help offset as much of the expense as possible for the high school band's upcoming trip to Florida.

"Like everything else, the cost of that trip has gone up," Dendel said. "As a board, it's our goal to be able to offer $100,000 towards that trip. We are very confident we will achieve that goal and offer our families an affordable opportunity to send their students on this amazing trip."

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Work on powerhouse approved, housing needs discussed

By Gari Voss

The Allegan City Council focused much of their Study Session and regular Council Meeting on reviewing information that would assist council members as they participated in the Strategic Planning Sessions that would be Friday, Jan. 17 and Saturday, Jan. 18, 2025. Having background information and understanding financial procedures can help the members move forward with discussion on where to place their focus in 2025.

Council Meeting
Parks & Recreation Plan

After no citizens spoke during the Public Hearing for the amended 2024-2028 City of Allegan Parks & Recreation Plan, Resolution 25.01was approved by the Council. This is a 5-year plan that will be filed with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

City Boards, Commissions and Area Agencies
Airport Advisory Commission

Mayor Pro-Tem Morgan shared that the Airport Advisory Board selected Michael Brouwer as chair for calendar year 2025 and Jason Apol as vice-chair. The new chair reviewed what he planned for his new flight school. This will be discussed further at the next meeting. The T-hanger construction is on target for a spring completion. Currently 2 hangers were available as of December 26, 2024.

Downtown Development Authority

Assistant City Manager Parker Johnson shared that Mark Heather would chair the DDA and Nicole Heslip would act as vice-chair. Carleigh Ackerman will represent the DDA on the Public Spaces Commission.

The DDA approved the proposed event calendar for 2025 which included a potential new 2-day fall festival. The group reviewed and came to consensus to move forward with the final site plan for the Hubbard Street Parking Lot which includes two 15-minute parking slots. The group reviewed and made suggestions regarding the Refuse and Recycling Fact Sheet for the Downtown Allegan Refuse & Recycling Program that is a year old. It will be distributed for the public to review.

The DDA's goals for 2025 include developing a sustainable parking lot improvement plan, maintaining and improving the Water Street Boardwalk, installing Wayfinding signs, initiating a program to fundraise for downtown events, and finding ways to market Downtown Allegan beyond the Revue Magazine.

Positively Allegan Quarterly Meeting

Councilmember Hooker shared that M. Cantwell was elected Chairperson of Positively Allegan with T. Winter Vice Chair, and C. Purdum Secretary. The groups reviewed the NYE!2025 event and voiced keeping the ice skating and silent disco activities.

The Calendar of 2025 Events would include the traditional activities, and was approved with interest expressed for a Fall Event the first week in October. The group agreed to use 4 of Positively Allegan's Liquor Licenses for the Cabin Fever Reliever concert series that would move from the Presbyterian Church to the Griswold Auditorium.

Public Spaces Commission

Councilmember Canales reviewed that Judi McCall would remain as Chairperson and Paula Mintek as Vice Chairperson. In reviewing the Parks & Rec Plan, the group would like to create butterfly and pollinator gardens at the Sports Complex, Cook Park, and in the other city parks. Canales reviewed his thoughts to investigate green burials in the SW section of Oakwood Cemetery. Other discussion focused on the homeless population using the city parks, the landscaping and maintenance of property surrounding Hillside Learning Center, and creating a sledding hill, maybe in Hanson Park.

Finance Department

Accounts Payable and Payroll. The request to approve accounts payable in the amount of $424,268.65 and payroll in the amount of $129,555.31 for a total disbursement of $553,823.96 was approved.

Hardship Exemption. The request to adopt Resolution 25.02 approving the State's 2025 hardship exemption guidelines was approved. Property owners discuss taxes and valuations with the Board of Review and the city must review the state's guidelines. The Council adopted the guidelines.

Public Works

Dam Risk Reduction Grant. The grant was received and the request to approve Resolution 25.03 accepting the Dam Risk Reduction Grant from EGLE and authorizing the City Manager to sign the grant carried.

Work on the Powerhouse. The request to authorize Milbocker & Sons for improvements to the city owned dam and removal of the upper portion of the powerhouse in the amount of $970,000 was approved as a "design build" project.

This would improve the safety of the dam and will lead to the eventual removal of the dam.

Inspection on the Dam Powerhouse. Request to authorize a purchase order for Fleis & Vandenbrink for underwater inspections on the dam and powerhouse and structural analysis leading to Milbocker's work in the amount of $14,600 carried.

City Manager & City Clerk

The request to approve the 2025 events schedule that was approved by Positively Allegan and the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) carried. These included Rollin on the River, Bridgefest, Fork in the Road, Sidewalk Sales, July Jubilee on July 3rd, Tentative Fall Event, Small Business Saturday, Festive Fridays, and NYE!26.

COMMUNICATIONS

Joel gave a reminder for the Strategic Planning meeting on Friday, January 17th with 6pm dinner then presentations beginning at 6:30pm, and Saturday with 8:30am breakfast and work beginning at 9am.

As a point of interest, Dye shared that 74% of Allegan residents work in Allegan County with an average commuting time of 23 minutes.

Study Session

Public Comment Period

Charles Tripp expressed concern about moving the City Council meetings to 6pm because so many Allegan residents work out of town and would not make it to a 6pm meeting.

Review of Proposed Changes to Council Rules of Procedure

Changes were made to reflect earlier discussion. One was removing the Study Session and beginning meetings at 6pm. The adjustment for absences of council members would be made. During Public Comments, the Council would continue to offer no response to people who bring issues during public comment, but members could meet with the person(s) after the meeting. A question was raised if a second Public Comment could be offered later in the meeting if the meeting was moved to 6pm. Dye shared that this is a procedure included by other boards. A new agenda layout was present. The document will not be voted on until a future Council meeting.

Review of the 2024-2025 City Council Goals

The 2024 Strategic Plan goals were reviewed. The 2025 Strategic Planning Workshop will be held on Friday evening, January 17, 2025, beginning at 6pm with dinner and continuing at 6:30pm. With presentations from each city department. Saturday, January 18, 2025, the Council would enter discussion on where they would like the city to go in the future.

City Manager Joel Dye reviewed each of the current goals and offered some dollar amounts when applicable. Under Infrastructure and Assets, several of the Goals like the Trestle Trail Bridge are large ticket items. Improving city streets and sidewalks would be another large ticket item. Of the 21 miles of city streets, many of those streets need extensive attention not only to the surface but to the infrastructure beneath them.

Included in the Economic Development goal, Dye has been working with property owners and developers to improve lots and/or structures in the city. Assisting property and business owners has been a top priority.

Community Development has received attention. There has been a focus on property maintenance and headway has been made. The Wayfinding Plan signs are in the design process with Guide Studio, who will be making a presentation to the Downtown Development Authority in February then to the City Council on their progress. The city is utilizing their assets by offering more events. Allegan Folklife will be bringing their Cabin Fever Reliever series to the Griswold Auditorium. Alcohol will be available. The goal is to promote attendance and use of the building. The single refuse and recycling program has been implemented and is under review for improvement.

The fourth goal centers on Administration. The newsletter has been discontinued, but the City Staff have not heard from community members wondering why the newsletter was discontinued. Dye felt there may be better ways for the staff to spend their time, so they will put their efforts into other projects that have a greater impact. The marijuana tax revenue goes into the general fund and each year, the council decides on its use. Dye felt it was best not to identify a set use, but to look at the needs each year. Including youth in the city's decision-making process is yet to be implemented.

Dye shared that creating goals may not be the way to go. It might be better to create value statements on what kind of city the Council wants to be then throw in action items. An example may be that for next year, the Council knows there will be the improvement to Ely Street, beginning in March, there will be the reconstruction of the Hubbard Street Parking Lot, and the reconstruction of Mahan Park. The key is to identify action items that are realistic and will improve the environment.

Councilmember Walker felt it would be important to strive to be the best Allegan without comparing the city to others in the area.

Mid-Year Review of the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget

Dye reminded the council that "A key thing for the Council to remember is that the City's Annual Budget is a policy document designed to determine what government services will be provided and how they will be financed." This is just the beginning of creating the FY budget for 2026. This budget begins July 1, 2025, and goes through June 30, 2026.

On Friday evening, each of the City's departments will present the council members with a list of what they have accomplished and what they would like to do next year.

On Saturday, the members will be present in the morning and early afternoon with Dye and Financial Director Tracy Stull. They will review finances and compare them to the auditor's report. The goal is to assist councilmembers in understanding the purpose of the 13 separate funds. Each fund should be self-sufficient. Included in the 13 funds are 33 departments that fall under 5 different offices. 69% of the funds are needed just to keep the lights on in the city and 31% is used for capital improvement that has been planned well in advance. The sources of revenue were shared to assist in understanding the total budget. A goal has been to keep a million dollars in the city's fund balance.

The Reserve Sinking and Capital Sinking Funds are listed. The Capital Sinking Fund of about $3 million was created when the city sold its interest in the Caulkins Dam in 1967. The Reserved Sinking Fund is the interest received from investments from that sale. The Reserved Sinking Fund can be used as the Council sees fit. The $200,000 has not been touched since Dye became city manager. The Capital Sinking Fund use must be a vote of the people. The last time that happened was in 2015. This was the seed money to build the Riverfront Stage. The Perpetual Care Fund is only for the cemetery but is not enough to cover maintenance. The general fund has been covering the cost of cemetery maintenance.

Stull suggested that the Council members review the audit before Friday because it describes the different funds and their uses. Additional questions regarding finances can be brought to Tracy before Saturday.

Discussion regarding Allegan Housing Needs

Dye has been speaking with different council members about housing needs. The question is what kinds of housing to pursue. Possible projects may include the two elementary schools that will be vacated. In addition, Community Action will be vacating their building on Hubbard Street. The county courthouse over-flow lot on Cutler Street may be vacated when the new addition to the courthouse is complete. Finally, there are large lots that owners might be willing to split for housing.

During the discussion, the council shared thoughts on what housing would be preferred – townhouses, condos, family homes, and a hotel. Maybe a shelter to assist the homeless or transitional housing. There are no homeless shelters in Allegan County. ALICE citizens are looking for affordable rentals or homes to buy. Another thought turned to landlords who may be gouging renters because rents have been set very high.

Walker asked about a comprehensive strategy to approach housing. The city has nothing focused on this issue. Maybe Saturday will bring opportunities to focus to this issue and decide the direction the Council wishes to go. This will lead to setting goals or to articulating a vision and setting action steps.

What's Important to you?
Let's Talk.

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Rick Buller
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ALLEGAN
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Speaker Pro Tem Smit sworn into office for second term in state House

State Rep. Rachelle Smit has been sworn in for her second term in office. Michigan's 103rd legislative term began following Wednesday's swearing-in ceremony.

Smit was elected by elected by her House colleagues to serve as speaker pro-tempore for the 2025-26 legislative session, making her second in line in leadership of the 110 members of the legislative body. The speaker pro tempore presides over House proceedings, moderates debate, makes rulings on procedure and announces the results of votes in the absence of the Speaker of the House.

The legislator represents the people of Michigan's 43rd House District, which encompasses most of Allegan County, including the cities of Allegan, Fennville and Wayland, and the townships of Fillmore, Manilus, Clyde, Overisel, Heath, Valley, Salem, Monterey, Dorr, Hopkins, Watson, Wayland and Martin. It also includes Barry, Yankee, Orangeville, Hope, Prairieville, Johnstown and Assyria townships in Barry County, Bellevue City and Township in Eaton County and part of Jamestown Township in Ottawa County.

Prior to her election to the House of Representatives, Smit served as the Martin Township Clerk for seven years. Fueling her passion for election integrity. In the 2023-24 term, she served as the Republican vice chair of the House Elections Committee. Committee assignments for the 2025-26 term will be announced in the coming weeks.

"I look forward to continuing to serve the people and families within our corner of Michigan," Smit said. "A new Republican majority means that no legislative proposals will advance past our chamber unless it reflects the conservative values of the people who elected this body. That's a huge sigh of relief after the burdensome regulations, tax increases and government overreach plots that were imposed on the people while Democrats controlled both legislative chambers."

Mersman withdraws from Laketown Township manager search

Brandon Mersman

A candidate for the Laketown Township manager position has withdrawn from the hiring process.

"Ryan, I am no longer interested in the Laketown position. Please let them know," Brandon Mersman texted to Ryan Cotton of MGT, the firm leading the search for a new township manager.

On Wednesday, January 8, 2025, the township board voted to extend an offer to Mersman, the current city manager of Bronson, Mich.

The new manager search is on the agenda for the township board's Wednesday, January 15 meeting. The board meets at 6 p.m. at the township hall, 4338 Beeline Road.

Follow Laketown Township on Facebook, Instagram and Threads.

Allegan County awarded Best in Class

By John Raffel
Correspondent

ALLEGAN — Allegan County was awarded "best-in-class – County stewardship of health care benefits was named "best in class" for the second consecutive year by a leading health in-surance brokering and consulting company.

Gallagher company representative Mike Haggerty presented the award during the Dec.12 Board of Commission-ers meeting. Each year the Gallagher company sends questionnaires to 1500 employers, sur-veying actions companies are taking to provide benefits that will attract and keep employees.

The county uses an insurance pool collective with 231 public employee groups. Allegan joined five years ago, becoming the 100 th member. In the category of under 100,000 members, the county was named best in

class for the competitiveness of its offerings to employees.

Haggerty told Commissioners it was rare for a member to be named best in class once, and almost never to achieve it in two consecutive years.

Community Events

EVENTS TO WATCH FOR!

Wed., Jan. 15, 2025, 2-4pm: Old Jail Museum Outing
Friends on Wednesday 200 Cutler St. Allegan

Fri., Jan. 17, 2025, 6-8pm: Lantern Lit Night Hike (registration required)
Armintrout-Milbocker Nature Preserve Thomas St. Allegan

Fri, Jan 17, 6:30pm & Sat., Jan. 18, 9am: City of Allegan Strategic Planning

CURRENT EVENTS

Wed., Jan. 15, 2025, 9-11am: MACC Annual Meeting
Perrigo Conference Room 490 Eastern Ave. Allegan
Celebrate a year-in-review and hear a presentation from the Office of Rural Prosperity. RSVP by Jan. 6th. at https://allegan.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/list/event?event_date_id=1462 or contact Lauren at MACC@alleganfoundation.org

Wed., Jan. 15, 2024: Fun at the Library
Allegan Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
1pm: Play-Doh Play Lab – Ages 0-7 can create with Play Doh.
6:30pm: Pub Quiz at Tantrick Brewing – At 5:30pm, head to Tantrick's and sign up your team. Then prepare to dual.

Wed., Jan. 15, 2025, 2-4pm: Old Jail Museum Outing
Friends on Wednesday 200 Cutler St. Allegan
Meet at the museum on 113 N. Walnut St., Allegan. After the tour, the group will meet at Mugshots for coffee. All are invited.

Wed., Jan. 15, 2025, 5-9pm: Pizza Fundraiser
Pizza Hut 1224 W. M89 Plainwell
Enjoy delicious pizza during this fundraiser where 10% of the proceeds go to the VFW Post 3030 that works to unite veterans from all services.

Thurs., Jan. 16, 2025: Fun at the Library
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Preschool Storytime – Enjoy stories and activities.
6:30pm: Pub Quiz at Tantrick Brewery. Registration begins at 5:30pm. Bring a library card and earn extra points.

Fri., Jan. 17, 2025, 6pm: Teen Tech Night
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
6th-12th graders can experience virtual reality, explore the realm of 3-D printing, and play video games after hours. Snacks are provided. Register at 269 673-4625.

Fri., Jan. 17, 2025, 6-8pm: Lantern Lit Night Hike
Armintrout-Milbocker Nature Preserve Thomas St. Allegan
Sponsored by the SW Michigan Land Conservancy, the hike has a waiting list for a guided hike over about one mile with complimentary hot chocolate. https://swmlc.org/lantern-lit-night-hike/

Sat., Jan. 18, 2025, 2-5pm: Fluid Art Painting Experience
Cottage Arts & Eats 245 Hubbard St. Allegan
Get introduced to techniques in acrylic pouring. Register at https://cottageartsandeats.com/event/fluid-art-painting-experience/.

Mon., Jan 20, 2025: Fun at the Library
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
1pm: Drop in Lego Club – Ages 6-12 can create with Legos.
3:30pm: Tween/Teen Trivia – Students in grades 6-12 can test their knowledge during rounds of Jeopardy. Register at 269 673-4625.
6pm: Craftastic: XOXO Wreath – All are welcome to register and participate. 269 673-4625

Tues., Jan. 21, 2025: Fun at the Library
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Lapsit Storytime - Children 0-2 can read, sing and learn for fun.
4pm: TAB: Tween Advisory Board – students in grades 5-8 are welcome to share ideas and make plan for TAB activities.
6pm: Library Board Meeting

Wed., Jan. 22, 2025: Fun at the Library
Children 0-2 can read, sing and learn for fun.
10am: Play Café – Caregivers can enjoy a cup of coffee while the little ones have fun.
4pm: Live Birds of Prey with the Outdoor Discovery Center - The birds will be used to share their life history and information about Michigan habitats. Birds will be walked around or brought out after the presentation for viewing. Register at 269 673-4625.

Wed., Jan. 22, 2025, 2:30-4pm: Heart Health
Friends on Wednesday will meet in the Michigan Room at Ascension Borgess Allegan to talk with cardiologist De. Veera Kotaru. The session will begin with refreshments. All are invited.

Thurs., Jan. 23, 2025, 10:30am: Preschool Story time
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
Enjoy stories and activities.

Fri., Jan. 24, 2025, 6-8pm: Intro to Calligraphy
Cottage Arts & Eats 245 Hubbard St. Allegan
Learn modern calligraphy from holding the pen to strokes, and tips on techniques. Register with Lori at cottageartsandeats@gmail.com.

Sat., Jan. 25, 2025, 11am: Jumpstart Your Genealogy
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
Professional genealogist Megan Heyl is back to help us hunt down and organize our family histories.

Sat., Jan. 25, 2025, 11am-1pm: Mini Makers Workshop
Cottage Arts & Eats 245 Hubbard St. Allegan
5-9yr. old children can use their imagination to be creative when engaging in age-appropriate art and craft project. Register with Lori at cottageartsandeats@gmail.com.

Sat., Jan. 25, 2025, 2-5pm: Zentangle Clas with Watercolor
Cottage Arts & Eats 245 Hubbard St. Allegan
Class 1 of 3 to explore the calming art of Zentangle. The instructor will guide participants through blending colors, layering patterns, and creating intricate designs that are both unique and therapeutic. Register with Lori at cottageartsandeats@gmail.com.

Sun., Jan. 26, 2025, 2-4pm: Cabin Fever Reliever 2025 – 4 Mini Concerts
Griswold Auditorium 401 Hubbard St. Allegan
K'zoo Folklife/Allegan Chapter & the City of Allegan welcome all to enjoy Mathew Borr of Kalamazoo, Dave & Connie of Allegan, Mardi Peters of Kalamazoo, and John West & Char Wiltrakis of Allegan. Beer, wine and other refreshments will be available. Donations will be accepted at the door.

Mon., Jan. 27, 2025: Fun at the Library
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
1pm: Craft & Snack. Bring your own project and enjoy snacking and chatting.
6pm: BINGO. Bring the family and win prizes. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Tues., Jan 28, 2025: Fun at the Library
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Lapsit Storytime. 0-2 year olds can enjoy a story and activities.
1pm: Friends of the Library Meeting. All are invited to drop in.

Wed., Jan. 29, 2025, 2-4pm: Food Addicts Anonymous
Friends on Wednesday 200 Cutler St. Allegan
The FAA representatives will define food addiction, the symptoms, and the experiences of food addiction. All are invited.

Wed., Jan. 29, 2025: Fun at the Library
4pm: Teen Japanese Stab Art Book Binding. Students 5-12 grades can learn to do classic bookbinding with help from the Kalamazoo Book Arts. Register at 269 673-4625.

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

ASSISTANCE

Adventist Community Service Center
218 S. Farmer St. Otsego Tues. 10am-4pm; Thurs. 1-5pm
Clothes for the family and household goods are available, layettes for newborns, clothing, diapers, toys, etc. for babies to 6 mo. For emergency needs, call 269 694-4775 or Marlene 269 217-8293. This is supported by the 7th-Day Adventist Church and an ACCF TAG Grant.

Allegan County Community Action - Assistance for daily living
23 Water Street, Allegan, MI 49010, www.communityactionallegan.org, (269) 673-5472
Food, weatherization, early childhood education.

Allegan Homeless Solutions - Helping eliminate barriers to housing.
108 Grant St., Plainwell MI 49080
www.alleganhomelesssolutions.org, Email: info@alleganhomelesssolutions.org

The Arc of Allegan County - Advocates for people with disabilities
219 Hubbard Street, Allegan 269 673-8841
Mission to advocate for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the community.

Baby Closet – Newborn Clothing and Supplies
Diaper Closet – monthly diaper program
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street Allegan
Call 269 673-2254 and leave a message.

Bridges of Hope, Allegan County - Assistance to move out of poverty
108 E Grant Street, Plainwell, MI 49080, bridgesofhopeallegancounty.org, (269) 204-6041
Foster relationships with individuals desiring to move out of poverty by providing community resources.

Christian Neighbors - Food, Education, Emergency Financial Assistance
282 12th Street Plainwell MI 49080 (269) 685-4166
Monday: Drive-thru only - 10am-12pm and 4pm-6pm.
Tuesday: In person shopping/walk ins - 10am-12pm
Thursday: In person shopping/walk ins - 2pm-5pm
We have been providing services to the Plainwell, Otsego and Martin areas since 1983.

Community Clothes Closet – Free Clothing and More
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street, Allegan (269) 673-2254
Open Fridays, 10am – 1pm A wide selection of clothing for all ages is available.

People Helping People of Pullman
Assistance by appt. 269 236-6295

Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center - abuse prevention and healing
402 Trowbridge Street, Allegan, MI 49010 www.safeharborallegan.org, (269) 673-3791

St. Vincent de Paul-St. Margaret Conference - Food and More
St. Vincent de Paul 124A W. Allegan St. Otsego
Mon.: 1-3pm Tues. & Thurs: 10am to noon Wed.: 3-5pm
Food pantry and limited financial aid. Dtvincentdepaul9005@gmail.com
Serves Otsego, Plainwell and Martin School Districts

Sylvia's Place - Safe from Domestic Violence
Crisis Line: 269 673-8700

United Church of Wayland - Free Clothing
1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month, 4 - 6pm
411 E Superior St. in Wayland

Wings of Hope Hospice & Palliative Care - End of Life Care
530 Linn Street, Allegan, MI 49010, www.wingsofhopehospice.com, (269) 686-8659

FOOD

Allegan Food Pantry
Church of God, 1313 Lincoln Rd., Allegan
Monday: 10 am–1pm; Tues.: 2–7pm; Fri. 1-4pm Curbside Service
Contact: Phone: 269 686-6369
Deliveries are made to homebound senior citizens.

Christian Neighbors, SE
282 12th St. Plainwell 269 685-4166

Christian Neighbors, Wayland
122 Church St. Wayland 269 792-2870

Congregational Kitchen - Thursday Dinner Pickup
Congregational Church 325 Cutler Street Allegan
Call (269) 673-3139 after 3pm any Thursday and place an order.
Thursdays: Pick up 3 to 5:30 pm. Takeout dinners only during COVID-19

Epiphany Lutheran Church
4219 Park Land Dorr 616 681-0791

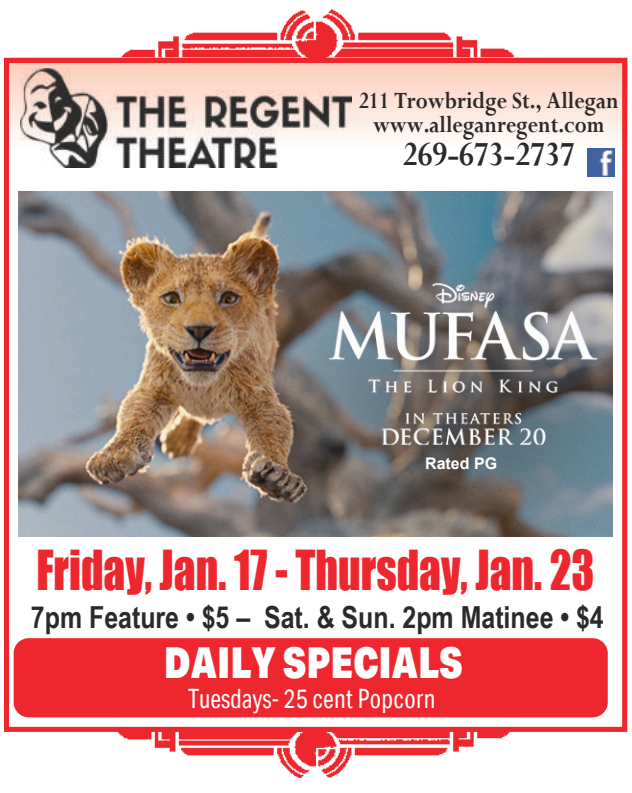
Food Truck - 3rd Friday of each month, 4:30 - 5:30pm
United Church of Wayland
411 E Superior St. in Wayland

Hamilton Christian Reformed Church / Love INC
3596 47th St. Hamilton, 269 751-2533

The Hands of Grace Food Pantry
United Methodist Church, 409 Trowbridge St., Allegan 269 673-4236
Tuesday: 9-11:45 a.m.; Wednesday: 9-11:45 a.m. and 7-9 p.m.; Friday: 10-11:45 a.m.
Food Pantry serves FOOD to residents of Allegan 49010 w/valid ID with current address ONLY.

Hopkins United Methodist Church
322 Maple St. Hopkins
269 793-7340

Hungry for Christ
4565 135th Ave. Hamilton, 269 264-1307 x1000



Strategic Planning workshop seeks community participants

By Gari Voss

The successful raising of children is not the only event that requires the involvement of a whole village. Strategic Planning involves articulating a vision and the values of an organization, examining the current reality, defining the desired outcomes, understanding how to reach the outcomes, and implementing the plan. As local municipalities move into 2025, leadership will wrestle in moving through the steps of strategic planning while taking into consideration the desires and opinions of the populations they represent.

How can the leadership of a municipality set the best goals for their constituents?

The answer falls to not only the leadership group, but the input of the community members. That requires becoming involved in constructive dialog.

The City Council of Allegan will hold their Strategic Planning Workshop on Saturday, January 18, 2025. To prepare the new Council, that is comprised of 3 returning members and 4 new council members, City Manager Joel Dye has been working with the City Hall staff to inform this new Council of the current state of the city.

Before looking forward, Dye has reminded the group of the 2024 goals:

1. Infrastructure and Assets
   a. Identify, prioritize, and develop a funding plan to maintain the city's various infrastructure and assets.
   b. Develop a plan for the future of the Trestle Trail Bridge.
   c. Explore various funding scenarios to improve city streets.
2. Economic Development
   a. Continue working with private property owners on the development of downtown properties.
   b. Continue to attract new housing, commercial and industrial development city wide.
3. Community Development
   a. Continue increasing focus on property maintenance.
   b. Implement the city-approved Wayfinding Plan.
   c. Promote and increase the use of various city assets.
   d. Explore creating a single refuse and recycling hauler program for residential properties.
4. Administration
   a. Develop and implement a communications plan to improve community outreach.
   b. Identify how the marijuana tax revenue will be spent in the city.
   c. Explore ways to engage area youth in the city's decision-making process.

During current council meetings, data has been shared to inform members as to what has been done to achieve Goal 3: Community Development - better property maintenance, updates on the Wayfinding Plan, creating the refuse and recycling program for Downtown, etc. Information on other goals have been presented to build understanding on what has been accomplished toward reaching each goal.

Along with understanding the basic workings of the city including the Water/Sewage infrastructure and the Public Works responsibilities. Dye has been reviewing financial aspects so the council members understand the many funds that support the City's Annual Budget.

The Council must utilize basic information to look at how much of the current goals have been attained. As an example, to review progress on Goal #2: Economic Development, Dye shared that in efforts to attract new housing units, 18 new second floor apartments were available in downtown, a 42-unit residential development is ready to begin on Delano Street, and discussions continue on developing the Girl Scout Property near Riverside Drive.

Looking forward, the Allegan Public Schools' new elementary complex will be ready, and there will be two existing elementary schools that might be turned into some type of housing. Community Action will be moving to the previous United Way building by the airport which will make available the building on Hubbard Street. Can the county overflow parking lot be turned into housing? Can property owners with large lots be encouraged to split the lots to create additional housing?

Thus, the accomplishments and possibilities continue, along with the questions. These are the types of discussions that may ensue during the Council's Strategic Planning Workshop.

Would the conversation regarding Economic Development be enriched if members of the Allegan community participated in Strategic Planning? Could sharing insights and ideas while listening to the insights and ideas of others move the council along in different directions or strengthen the current path to success?

During 2024, as the Council attempted to work to develop parcels of land, conversations came down to how the development would change the current neighborhood. Can the City of Allegan increase the number of residential units if neighborhoods are not willing to change and/or do not understand why the change is necessary? Without new units, will the City of Allegan, or any municipality, increase its economic footprint?

The Strategic Planning Workshops that will occur across Allegan County involve the gathering of the leadership body. That means all are welcome to come and hear and even provide positive thoughts that could move the city forward. With additional creative ideas, more may be accomplished in a given amount of time. To become part of the solutions to city concerns and dreams, will more members of the "village" step forward and participate in the Strategic Planning Workshop? This is the future of a village.

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Is insurance claim worth chopping your feet off?

MIKE'S MUSINGS

MIKE WILCOX
■ PUBLISHER ■

In the midst of all the drama many of us experience I thought I'd write about an unusual story, actually better words would be strange and bizarre, that comes from the Ozarks in Missouri.

Here's the setup:

A man wanted to cash in on an insurance policy by staging a bloody farm equipment accident. A press release had been sent out by local police indicating a man had lost both his feet in a staged encounter with a brush hog.

Upon arrival by medics and law enforcement officers, however no feet were found.

Police pieced together what had really happened. The man in his 60's had recruited a man from Florida to cut off his legs with a hatchet. Police were not convinced that this was a brush hog accident, noting that the hatchet cuts were too clean. A brush hog would have left a bloody mess.

Because the man had not yet filed his false insurance claim he couldn't be charged with a crime. Police thought about jailing him for make a false police report, but the man was laying in a hospital bed, severely injured, and they believed that was another punishment.

But the missing feet were still a mystery. Where the heck did they end up? Apparently a couple days later a relative snooping around the house found them in a bucket obscured by tires.

Moral of the story- If you intend to commit insurance fraud there are easier solutions than chopping off body parts.

My head is one big blur with all the activities going on this weekend and Monday. First Saturday night, my beloved Detroit Lions play the Washington Commanders in their first playoff game and march to the Super Bowl. That next day is my birthday, lol.

On Monday, we honor Martin Luther King, on his birthday. At the same time is Inauguration Day, in which President Donald Trump will be crowned the 47th president. Later that night Ohio State will take on Notre Dame for the college football championship.

For the most part I will be glued to the television, that is, when I'm not working.

It is sad for me to report, Wilcox Newspapers has sold its only Alabama newspaper, The LaFayette Sun, to a publisher in a neighboring community. It is sad because I lived in that community for five years and got to know a good number of people. But I haven't been back there in four years, and it makes much more sense to have a local person publish the newspaper, than me from afar.

I owned and published The Sun for 10 years. It was a good run. The people of Chambers County welcomed this northern guy with open arms and I can't express enough appreciation to all those that helped us along the way, particularly the employees. Publishing a newspaper is not easy in this digital age, but somehow there and in our other communities, people seem to enjoy a weekly newspaper. Knowing that means we will be around for many years to come.

Life as Performance Art

G CORWIN STOPPEL

According to physicians and therapists, pollsters and others, we seem to have become sadder than in the past. We smile less and feel gloomier, leaving many of us without a lot of hope or enthusiasm for the future. In fact, about one in four of us, or some two billion people across the world, report they just do not have the old zip and bounce in their step. According to one study, only twenty percent of all people were sufficiently optimistic about the future that they bothered to make New Year's Resolutions this month. This type of sadness is usually expressed as apathy.

Being cheerful, even moderately so, has gone out of fashion. It is treated almost as a highly suspicious behavior. If this keeps up, it might not be long before a police officer could stop you for being suspiciously cheerful with intent. Either that, or cheerful people will be officially cancelled because it is too elitist, privileged, and must have something to do with the exploitation of someone on the margins of society.

Apathy and sadness are usually based on mourning and frustration. The older you and I get, the easier it is to get frustrated, and there is more to mourn.

The pandemic and Great Shutdown of five years ago was harder on us than we realized, and the pain still lingers. Remember those white circles on the floor at checkout lines that instructed us to keep six feet away from others? No more seeing an old acquaintance and shaking hands or air-kissing. No sliding up to someone to tell a joke or the latest news. As for masks, the only fun about them was walking into a bank without setting off the alarms. Even that got old after a while.

Gone, but only for a little while, we told bravely ourselves, were dinner parties, having friends over for conversation and refreshments, board games, and cards. Gone were lunches, shopping trips, and day trips. Someday they would return and it would be life as normal. Meanwhile, we Zoomed and video chatted, did business and held remote meetings from home, and spent an inordinate amount of time discussing something called "Mute." Meanwhile, we lost opportunities to advance in our career or travel to all of the places we wanted to see.

As the months dragged on, we kept promising ourselves that just soon as health officials sounded the all clear, things would return to normal. Once that happened, we would pick up where we left off and party like it was 2018. It has not really worked out that way, has it? One example came from a Roman Catholic priest who lamented that his parish's men's group probably will die out in another year. "I think women find it easier to make connections. Men need the connection there for them," he told me, "and it is terrible that something this important is dying as we helplessly watch."

I recently heard a podcast from a bishop who told how, back when he was ordained, there were nearly 200 parishes in his diocese. A decade ago, there were 100. He predicts that by the end of this decade there will be no more than 70. Compounding the problem is an acute shortage of priests.

It is a theme repeated in variations by many, but not all, of the community and fraternal groups and service organizations who see a steady decline in membership and participation. For some, the problem began before the pandemic when membership began declining because older members were dying off and there were not new ones to take their place.

Pure and simple, no messing, we mourn for how much we lost during the Pandemic, and we know there is very little chance we can make up for lost time. It leaves us with a sense of sadness and in some cases, hopelessness.

Fortunately, not everyone has slipped into John Bunyan's proverbial Slough of Despond. A good friend and fellow writer from Minnesota turned eighty this past year. Many people turn that milestone age and find it demoralizing. Not him. "That's the sell by and expiration date according to the Good Book," he wrote, "and I am not ready for that to happen. There is still more I want to do, if only I could get my body to go along with the plan."

That's the ticket to break free of this national malaise, and surprisingly, it is based on Isaac Newton's First Law of Motion. A body in motion tends to stay in motion; a body at rest tends to stay in rest. Or, as President Theodore Roosevelt said, "Take Action! Get Action!" In short, get up, get off the sofa or out of bed, and do something productive.

Action, even if it is not the perfect action, is the key to accomplishing anything. Every small accomplishment or minor success gives us a sense of optimism and hope. It is for that reason that many people use a checklist of tasks to be completed. All it takes is to check a few of them off, and people feel better about themselves. Before long, they are feeling better about the rest of the world.

Taking action is a good start to moving away from feeling sad, but we need something else. We need other people and a sense of community. Scrooge, was described as being as solitary as an oyster, and his personality was cold, lonely, and miserable. The money he made was doing no good to anyone, or even himself. It was only when he learned to reconnect with the wider community that he found joy.

Take a second look at children and see them as role models. The other day Pat and I were in a grocery store checkout line. Ahead of us was a very harried mother trying to ride herd on her four young children and four young. They looked at us, waved, smiled and said "hi" as if we were long lost friends. They wanted a sense of belonging in an adult world. Or walk into a retirement home, and you are likely to see some residents sitting in the front lobby. They look, smile, and will hold out their hand. It is because they want human contact. Administrators have come to realize that a therapy dog or a resident cat is good medicine for the staff and human residents. They all still need people, too.

Those of us in the middle have forgotten how important that is, and how much we need it.

A couple of decades ago I ran into an old friend. He was a retired Mustache Pete from the Chicago Outfit. He told me, "We never had meetings. We had sit-downs, and there were rules and a lot of respect. Respect is a big thing. Respect for the [street} captain and the boss, but you spoke your peace. Face to face we hashed things out because we were a family. Respect came first."

That method is quite the contrast with many university students who find it difficult to have a face-to-face meeting with people. Many of them were in high school during the pandemic, missing the important life lessons on successful functioning in society. They are wary of others, and wary of saying something that might not be popular. To have to carry on a conversation, much less speak in front of classmates, is a terrifying experience for them.

Unfortunately, that leads to more isolation, depression, and loneliness. If you want to turn your life, get up and take action, and start connecting with more people. People might wonder what you are up to this time, but do not let that bother you. Go stir things up but just remember the element of respect.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Full steam ahead, DOGE

Dear Editor:

I just have to respond to the many inaccuracies in Mr. Erickson's letter on the National Debt.

It is not the tax cuts that created the increase in the national debt. The tax cuts increased revenue for the government. It is the out of control spending by Congress. Many have said that Congress is spending OUR money like drunken Sailors. There is a difference. Sailors are spending their money. Congress is spending OUR money!

Mr. Erickson omits the fact that President Trump has been out of office for the last 4 years. The national debt has ballooned the last 4 years under President Biden. Why doesn't Mr. Erickson blame President Biden? I am curious.

If President Trump's DOGE can get close to the goal of Two Trillion Dollars of government waste, we will be in a budget surplus. Add to that an increase in revenue from a growing economy. For the first time since Speaker Gingrich pushed through the Contract With America our debt will not be increasing.

Speaker Gingrich faced constant criticism from President Clinton who derided the cuts in spending and limits on spending in the Contract With America constantly. Speaker Gingrich said it would balance the budget in seven years. The result was it only took three and a half years. When that happened, President Clinton with the help of the press claimed all the credit for what Speaker Gingrich did.

DOGE will face constant criticism from Democrats and their Press over every program that is cut or eliminated. Everyone will be a disaster if the cuts are allowed. It will not happen. It will only be a disaster for the unneeded bureaucrats that now have to get a real job in the private sector. When DOGE like the Contract With America succeeds, the Press that will give Democrats and not President Trump all the credit. History will repeat itself.

America needs a Congress that will stop wasting our money. It is not their money. It is our money. We need to demand our Representative and Senators stop wasting our money!

Go DOGE!

Sincerely;
Willam A. Geresy

Reader disputes editor's position on TikTok

Dear Editor:

Oh, Mike, what a heartfelt and bold defense of the digital opiate of the masses. Truly, your arguments about TikTok's innocence and Congress's supposed authoritarian tendencies have moved me to tears—of laughter. Let's unpack your opus with the care it so desperately deserves.

First, your assertion that TikTok's U.S.-based executives and "thousands of American investors" mean the app couldn't possibly pose a risk to national security is simply adorable. It's as if you believe the mere presence of American businesspeople magically transforms any venture into a beacon of virtue. By that logic, should we assume that because international banks operate in the U.S., no financial crimes ever happen? Delightful.

Your skepticism about TikTok's connection to the Chinese government is charmingly naive. ByteDance is, after all, subject to Chinese laws that mandate cooperation with state intelligence efforts. But, sure, let's take their word that no data is being shared. After all, tech companies never bend the truth about data privacy, right? (Insert cough Facebook cough here.)

Speaking of Facebook and Instagram, your "whataboutism" is truly masterful. Yes, these platforms have their issues—algorithms promoting divisiveness, spreading misinformation, and yes, being exploited by bad actors. But do two wrongs make a right? If one restaurant violates health codes, should we shrug and let another serve up salmonella? You suggest regulation for all or none, as though nuance and targeted oversight are foreign concepts. It's almost as if you believe Congress is incapable of walking and chewing gum at the same time. (Admittedly, you may have a point there.)

Then, there's your favorite libertarian buzzword: regulations. Aren't they just the worst? I mean, who needs seatbelt laws or building codes when we could just trust people to make smart choices? You lament that the government is overstepping, but when private platforms shape public discourse and wield influence over millions, some oversight seems less like authoritarianism and more like common sense.

Oh, and Rand Paul's quip about "emulating Chinese authoritarians"? Chef's kiss, Mike. Truly. Because nothing screams "defense of democracy" like letting a foreign-influenced app operate unchecked because we're too scared of looking like the bad guys. Newsflash: Regulating TikTok doesn't make us authoritarian; it makes us responsible. It's not about banning fun, Mike—it's about addressing the potential national security and societal impacts of an app that vacuums up data like a Black Friday sale at the NSA.

Lastly, your plea for parental regulation as the panacea for all of TikTok's ills is positively quaint. Sure, let's put all the onus on parents to monitor their kids' every swipe and like. Because parents clearly have nothing else to worry about in this digital age where technology evolves faster than a toddler with a tablet.

Mike, your piece is a delightful cocktail of misplaced confidence and oversimplification. The next time you pen a defense of Big Tech disguised as a libertarian manifesto, maybe consider adding a pinch of critical thinking to your recipe. In the meantime, I'll be over here, scrolling responsibly—on an app that's hopefully subject to more than just good vibes and wishful thinking.

Name withheld upon request

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Obituaries

Sandra Dee Brainerd, 64

Sandra Dee Brainerd, 64, of Plainwell/Otsego, passed away peacefully on Friday, January 10th, surrounded by her family. Sandra spent much of her career at Specialty Minerals in Plainwell, where she was known for her tenacity and strong work ethic. In her later years, after retiring, she moved to Otsego and enjoyed working with her son to help manage their local properties, finding pleasure in connecting with residents in the Otsego and Kalamazoo communities. Beyond her professional life, Sandra raised her children in Plainwell and was deeply passionate about her two sons and grandchildren, taking immense pride in supporting their endeavors and watching their successes. Sandra was a woman

Sandra Dee Brainerd

of faith, devoted to her relationship with God and her community at Otsego Church of God. Her unwavering belief was a guiding light in her life and an inspiration to those around her. Sandra is survived by her loving sons, Kenneth Martin and Charles Parker (and his wife, Sara Parker); her cherished grandchildren, Charles Parker and Brendan McKenzie; her sister, Sarah Brainerd; her brother, Ronald Brainerd; and her father, Donald Brainerd. She will be welcomed to heaven by her mother, Dolores Brainerd (Stantz), and her brother, David Brainerd. She will be deeply missed by her family and all who had the privilege of knowing her. Her life will be celebrated privately with her family, honoring the love and memories she leaves behind. Messages of condolence may be posted at www.WinkelFuneralHome.com.

Paz Omega West, 69

Paz Omega West, affectionately known as Ms. West or Heidi, was a beacon of light and joy to everyone she encountered. Born on June 25, 1955, in Calbayog City, Philippines, Paz lived a life characterized by her selfless nature, spirited zest for life, and passionate devotion to her family. She departed from this world on November 23, 2024, in Holland, MI, after a sudden heart attack, leaving behind a legacy of love and cherished memories.

Paz's journey led her from the tropical warmth of the Philippines to the welcoming community of Holland, Michigan, where she made a lasting impact on all those she met. Paz had a unique ability to spread happiness and comfort to those in her care, treating them with a kindness and compassion that transcended the ordinary.

A devoted mother and grandmother, Paz's family was the center of her universe. She is survived by her loving children, Jennifer Zavala (née Edwards) and her husband Felix Zavala Sr., Pamela Tedder (née West) and her husband Stephen Tedder, and Patrick West and his wife Mitchelle West. Her grandchildren, Felix Zavala Jr., Carlos Edwards Zavala, Jennifer Zavala, Corbin Tedder, Connor Tedder, Lilly West, Lexi West, Nolan Milliman and Cheyenne Strasser will forever cherish the memories of their grandmother's unwavering support and the joy she brought to their lives.

Paz's interests were as diverse as they were heartfelt. She was an avid bargain shopper, always on the lookout for the best deals at garage sales, much to the dread of her family. She was a familiar face at her grandchildren's various activities, cheering them on with an enthusiasm that was both endearing and infectious. Her love for the outdoors was evident in her fondness for fishing and her frequent visits to the beach, where she found peace and contentment in the sound of the waves and the warmth of the sun. As well as her enthusiasm at all the natural treasures she and the grandkids lugged home!

In the words of the great poet Maya Angelou, whose sentiments reflected Paz's own approach to life, "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." Paz made everyone feel loved, valued, and important, and her memory will live on in the hearts of those who were fortunate enough to have been touched by her kindness.

Paz Omega West lived her life with a joyous heart and a generous spirit. Her absence will be deeply felt by all who knew her, but her legacy of love, laughter, and selflessness will continue to inspire and guide us. Paz's life reminds us that the richness of our days is measured not in the possessions we acquire but in the lives we touch and the love we share.

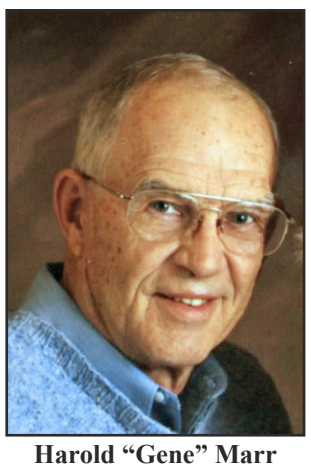
As we bid farewell to Paz, we hold close the memories of her unwavering love, her infectious laughter, and her boundless capacity for giving. She was a treasure to her family, a blessing to her friends, and a gift to all who knew her. Paz Omega West may have left this world, but the light she shone upon it will never dim.

A funeral mass will be held at St. Peter's Catholic Church located at 100 St. Peter Dr Douglas, MI 49406 on January 25th at 11 a.m. All are welcome.

All are welcome to remember her on January 25th at 11AM St. Peter's Catholic Church located at 100 St. Peter Dr Douglas, MI 49406

Harold "Gene" Marr, 87

Harold "Gene" Marr, age 87, of Allegan, passed away Saturday, January 11th, 2025 at Ascension Borgess, Kalamazoo. Gene was born December 22nd, 1937 in Dickenson County, IA, son of the late Elmer and Pauline Marr and lived in the Allegan area for the past 45 years. Gene worked at Bronson Hospital until retiring in the mid 1980's. Shortly before his retirement, he and his wife Barb purchased a farm in Allegan, later to be named Marr Haven Wool Farm where they shepherded sheep until 2015. Gene was not one to sit idle. He loved computers, as this was not only his vocation but also a lifelong hobby. Many people often sought out Gene for tech support and computer advice through the years.



Harold "Gene" Marr

He also worked at Allegan General Hospital and for a short time, served as the night school manager at the Allegan Tech Center. Gene was also an avid hunter and in his earlier years enjoyed cross country skiing and riding motorcycles.

Surviving is his wife Barb; son Kevin (Donna) Marr of New Jersey; a sister-in-law, Diane Marr of Oregon; nephew, Jeff (Julie) Marr; niece, Kristin (Greg) Klecker along with several cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Richard Marr.

Following his wishes cremation has taken place. The family will meet friends on Wednesday, January 15th, from noon until time of memorial service at 1pm at the Corner Bible Church, Allegan, Pastor Nick Westra officiating. The family suggests memorial contributions be made to Corner Bible Church. Arrangements entrusted to the Bloomingdale Chapel, D. L. Miller Funeral Home, www.dlmillerfuneralhome.com.

Joy Elaine Masek

"Devoted" is the word that best describes Joy Elaine Masek (Miner) who went to be with the Lord on January 12, 2025. She gave her time and resources to her faith in God and family—-both immediate and extended.

Surviving is her husband Jerry, married 68 years, daughter Jayne married to Michael Bailey and their daughter Melissa, daughter Julie married to Lawrence Roy and their children Christina, Patrick and Jeri, and daughter Jaclyn married to Steven Cowing and their children Lyndsy, Caleb and Jacob. She prayed for her grandchildren and their families daily which included 14 great-grandchildren. Her extended family included many cousins, some double, and several who were like siblings.

Growing up an only child in rural Allegan, born October 7, 1936 to Jesse and Marjorie Miner, she enjoyed farming life, going to country school and time with her Grandma May who taught her many fun and useful domestic things.

Having been taught, she used the knowledge as a 4-H sewing leader and teaching her girls these skills.

Joy's dedication to her work at the Allegan Public Library spanned the careers of three head librarians. While working and raising a family she volunteered for Kid's Hope.

If you were looking for Joy outside of the home, you might find her in the garden, out walking or at Allegan United Methodist Church either attending worship, typing the bulletin, contributing at Bible Study or making cinnamon rolls and pies for an event. She taught Sunday School for several years and one student recalls that Mrs. Masek was the first person to talk to her about the real Jesus.

People say that you could not find a sweeter, more loving person than Joy Masek. You may have been on one of her many prayer lists! She leaves behind a legacy of devotion to a God who loved her and made His Presence known in all the myriad of things to which she put her willing hands.

Joy's funeral service will be at Allegan United Methodist Church at 409 Trowbridge Street, Allegan, MI 49010 on Monday, January 20, 2025. Visitation begins at 10:00 a.m. with service at 11:00. Luncheon to follow.

Joy Elaine Masek

Notice

of Public Hearing
Salem Township Planning Commission

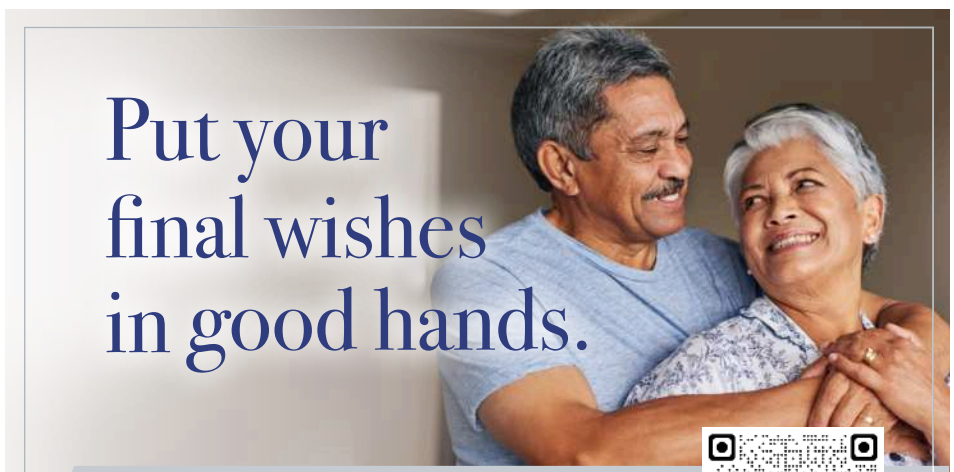
Notice is hereby given pursuant to Public Act 110 of 2006, as amended (The "Michigan Zoning Enabling Act") the Planning Commission of Salem Township will hold public hearing to deliberate and possibly take action on the following items on Thursday, February 6, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at Salem Township Hall, located at 3003 142nd Avenue, Burnips, Michigan:

1. A request from Louis Bartz, owner of 4098 30th Street, also known as parcel number 03-19-021-023-00, for a Special Use Permit to construct a duplex within the R-1 Agricultural and Rural Estate District, subject to Section 6.03(a) of the Salem Township Zoning Ordinance.
2. Any other business that comes properly before the Planning Commission.

A copy of the application is available for review at the Township Hall during regular business hours. This meeting is intended to provide an opportunity for Township residents and interested citizens to express their opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the request. Those unable to attend the public hearing are invited to submit written comments to the attention of the Zoning Administrator at the Township Hall address cited above. All written comments must be received by no later than 4:00 p.m. on February 6, 2025.

If any resident has a physical disability which may limit his/her participation in this hearing, please notify the Township Hall at least five (5) days prior to the hearing so that reasonable accommodation may be made.

SALEM TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
BRANDON OOSTERINK, CHAIR
616-877-2000



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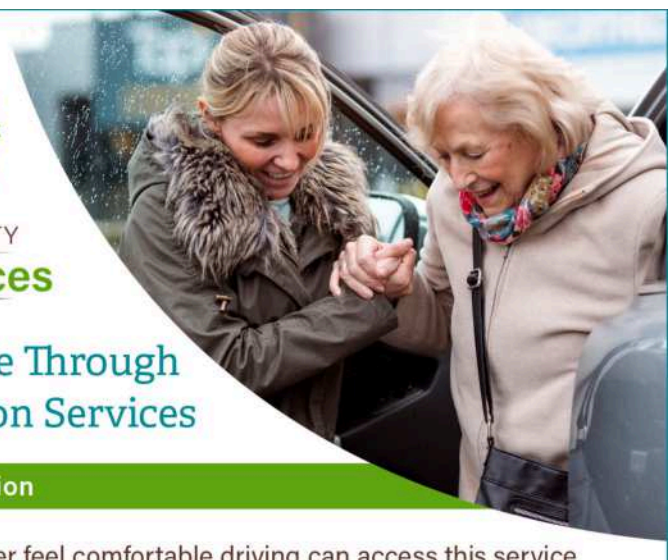

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PCS recycling program earns benches for the district

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Through a partnership with NexTrex—which creates eco-friendly outdoor products from recycled plastic—Plainwell Community Schools has found a way to help the environment and the district at the same time.

For every 1,000 pounds of plastic the district recycles, it receives a new NexTrex bench.

As of Jan. 8, the district had amassed 671 pounds of recycled plastic bags, meaning it is 329 pounds away from its first bench of the school year.

Plainwell Middle School teacher Kerry Oostdyk helps coordinate the recycling program.

"The Plainwell Middle School Eco Club has been collecting the bags, weighing them and taking photos to send to NexTrex," Oostdyk said. "The students are excited to help prevent plastic from entering our landfills and oceans, and they have been involving their families in the process as well."

PCS behavioral specialist Neta Taggett introduced the program to the district last year. She worked with Starr Elementary School to collect 1,000 pound of plastic bags to earn the district's first bench.

This year, officials decided to run the program districtwide.

"Our goal is to get a bench for every school in the district, and we are working together as a district to reach that goal," Oostdyk said. "Gilkey is very passionate about the program, so they have been weighing and tracking their own bags.

"The other schools are currently combining their pounds."

Oostdyk is excited about how well the program as gone thus far.

"At first, we thought we might only reach one bench districtwide," she said. "But as we approach our first 1,000-pound goal, we're hopeful we'll be able to collect enough for three benches this year."

And while the PCS students are obviously a big part of making the program successful, community members are also encouraged to participate.

All of the district's buildings have vestibules available in the office or front entrance to collect the plastic bags. Any plastic grocery bag that is clean, dry and free of food residue can be dropped off.

"I love that this program engages both students and the community," Oostdyk said. "Everyone learns about proper recycling procedures and becomes more aware of the plastic they are using.

"My students are learning alongside me and teaching their families at home. At my house, we've recycled more plastic than I ever thought we could."

Oostdyk suggests community members who want to participate refer to the NexTrex website at www.nextrex.com for more information on the program.

"This is an amazing, free program that anyone in the community can use," she said. "Businesses can sign up for their own collection bins through the NexTrex website or partner with us by dropping off bags at any district location. Families can also partner with us by collecting and dropping off plastic bags on a regular basis."

For more information about the district's recycling program, contact Oostdyk kerry.oostdyk@plainwellschools.org or Taggett at neta.taggett@plainwellschools.org.

Plainwell robotics teams compete in 'blended' event

The Plainwell Robotics Club sent six of its teams to the Jenison Blended VEX Robotics Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 11.

The event was blended in that 43 middle and high school teams from across Michigan participated, working with and against each other.

"It was a special opportunity for younger students to experience first-hand how their older colleagues were designing and building their robots," Plainwell Robotics Club representative Lisa Cook said. "It was a fun day for all of our teams.

"And while we didn't bring home any awards, we won half our matches throughout the day and had four teams qualify for the final elimination rounds."

Plainwell High School team Brotherhood of Steel—consisting of Hunter Crouch and Kevin Vicenzi—finished 14th after the qualifying matches and captained the ninth-place alliance in the finals.

Fellow PHS team En Passant (Aiden Glass, Bryce McCall, Joseph Sanderson and Caleb Williams) finished 15th after the qualifiers and captained the 10th-place alliance in the finals.

The two teams are coached by Charles Crouch and Jeremy Sanderson, respectively.

A pair of Plainwell Middle School teams also advanced out of the qualifying rounds.

Team Rubber Ducky Squad (Lennox Clippinger, Gabriel Garner, Landon Lowe and Ethan Sikes) placed 18th after the qualifying matches and captained the 12th-place alliance in the final rounds. Team Trial and Error (Jakob Cherian, Isaac Harris and Easton Morrow) finished the qualifying matches in 28th place and captained the 15th place alliance.

Rubber Ducky squad is coached by Summer Rosati and Matt Glass, while Trial and Error is coached by Amanda Cherian.

Summer Rosati and Matt Glass also coach Middle School team Streak, which finished in 33rd place after the qualifying matches.

Meanwhile, Middle School team Roll For Initiative (Elliott Johnson, Mason Potts, Nora Quemada and Mason Ritchie) finished in 39th place. Joe Potts serves as coach.

Plainwell looks at bylaws

By John Raffel
Correspondent

PLAINWELL — City Manager Lakamper stated at a recent Plainwell council meeting that he and Community Development Manager Siegel had worked together to create bylaws for the Zoning Board of Appeals, bringing all Boards and Commissions in line with Redevelopment Ready Community standard requirements.A motion to adopt the Zoning Board of Appeals bylaws passed as presented. Clerk Leonard discussed the Resolutions 2025-01 through 2025-04. The four Resolutions designate Ordinance Enforcement Officers, Council Meeting dates, Employee Holiday dates and Street Flag dates for 2025. A motion adopting Resolution 2025-01 - 2025 Ordinance Enforcement Officers, Resolution 2025-02 - 2025 Council Meeting Dates, Resolution 2025-03 - 2025 Employee Holidays and Resolution 2025-04 - 2025 Street Flag Dates passed as presented.The council voted to accept and place on file the November 2024 Department of Public Safety and Water Renewal Monthly Reports.

Council to consider various items

By John Raffel
Correspondent

PLAINWELL — The Plainwell City Council was scheduled to consider various items at its Monday meeting this week.

Guidelines for Poverty Exemptions was to be considered.Council will consider approving a seasonal salt order from Detroit Salt for $6,667. The Council will consider approving a professional services agreement with Dixon Engineering for Phase 1 of the water tower renovation project for $11,500.On the Axon Body Worn Cameras installment payment No. 3 the Council was to consider approving the third of five total annual installment payments to Axon Body Worn Cameras in the amount of $5,916.45.The December 2024 Investment and Fund Balance reports was also slated to be present

Field House ■ from Page A1

While opening night in the new first house is now done, the facility's impact on the district and community is just beginning.

"This field house just gives us so many more options for programs, practice space and events," Montange said. "We now have a facility that can be used in a wide variety of ways and allows us to showcase our district and our kids. Our new field house is definitely something our community can be proud of.

"And we just want to give our sincere thanks to the community for making this possible. This facility has an immediate impact for our current students, families and staff but will also impact our community for generations to come."

The district announced that the field house's walking track is now available for public use from 6:30 to 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 to 2 p.m. during the week. Community members are asked to use the sign-in sheet before entering the track and are reminded that times are subject to change.

Montange also wants the public to know that finishing touches will continue to be done to the field house.

"Even though we are able to start hosting events, the facility is not quite complete as of yet," he said. "In addition to exterior landscaping and signage, we also have to finish our pool bleachers and get some high areas cleaned of construction dust.

"We appreciate the patience of the community as we process through these last couple of steps to get the building fully functional."

GameStop closes Plainwell location

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

In its most recent quarterly report that came out last September, retail chain GameStop announced it would be closing several of its locations.

"While this review is ongoing and a specific set of stores has not been identified for closure, we anticipate that it may result in the closure of a larger number of stores than we have closed in the past few years," the company said in a statement at the time.

It turns out that the location at 417 Oaks Crossing in Plainwell was one of the stores on the chopping block.

As of Monday, Jan. 6, customers visiting the Plainwell location were greeting with an empty store and a sign on the front door that read:

"Thank you for being a loyal GameStop customer. Although this store is closing, we look forward to seeing you soon at a nearby location."

The Plainwell location was one of at least 12 locations in Michigan to be permanently closed.

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Best Sports Column
Thursday, Jan.16, 2025

Plainwell boys open field house with win over Otsego

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

PLAINWELL—The first game in its new home was a rousing success for the Plainwell boys basketball team.

Not only was a standing-room-only crowd on hand for the game the Plainwell Field House, but the Trojans also secured a 60-39 win over archrival Otsego.

"I was a great evening," Plainwell coach Larry Ash said. "I wish we had that kind of crowd every game and the field house was rocking like it was tonight.

"Playing Otsego for our first game in the field house seemed like it was destined. To have all the people in the area to share our building with was amazing. We all know about the rivalry between Plainwell and Otsego, but I think at the end of day we're all one big family and it was great to have Otsego be a part of this."

Otsego coach Matt Dennis had nothing but praise for Plainwell's new facility.

"Tonight, we had a great atmosphere for a high school basketball game," he said. "Plainwell's new field house has more space than the old gym and there certainly was a buzz in the air with people wanting to check out the building and see a rivalry game."

It didn't take the Trojans long to get acclimated to their new home.

Plainwell scored the game's first 11 points before a basket by Matthew Long got Otsego on the scoreboard. By the end of the first quarter, the Trojans led 18-4.

"Yes, we came out pretty good and have been working on defense a lot," Ash said. "We still have a way to go, but I think there were a lot of good signs for us tonight."

Otsego cut its deficit to nine points near the end of the second quarter, but Plainwell answered to push its lead to 34-19 at the intermission.

John Amaezechi led Plainwell with a double-double, going for team highs of 17 points and 14 rebounds. He also had two assists and two steals.

Drew Nelson added 16 points, while Chib Amaezechi and Trason Stephenson added nine points each. Chip Amaezechi also had seven rebounds.

"I think we are playing pretty good right now and the conference is tight with three to five teams looking over their shoulders at each other," Ash said. "That shows that the Wolverine Conference is getting tougher and tougher."

The Bulldogs, meanwhile, entered the game down two starters, as one suffered a broken wrist and another was dealing with a knee injury.

"I was proud of how we fought," Dennis said. "With some guys out, our players had to adjust and step into new roles. Everyone played hard and was coachable throughout the ups and downs of the game.

Plainwell's Chad Winenger (right) tries to block a shot from Otsego's Wyatt Dennis. (Photo by Tim Beason)

"We fell behind early, which hurt us, but the guys didn't fold they kept fighting and trying to make plays."

Long led Otsego with 13 points. Wyatt Dennis, making his varsity debut after being called up for the JV squad, had eight points.

"I give a lot of credit to Plainwell," Dennis said. "They were excited about the new home court and a good crowd. They're also a team that is on a roll right now."

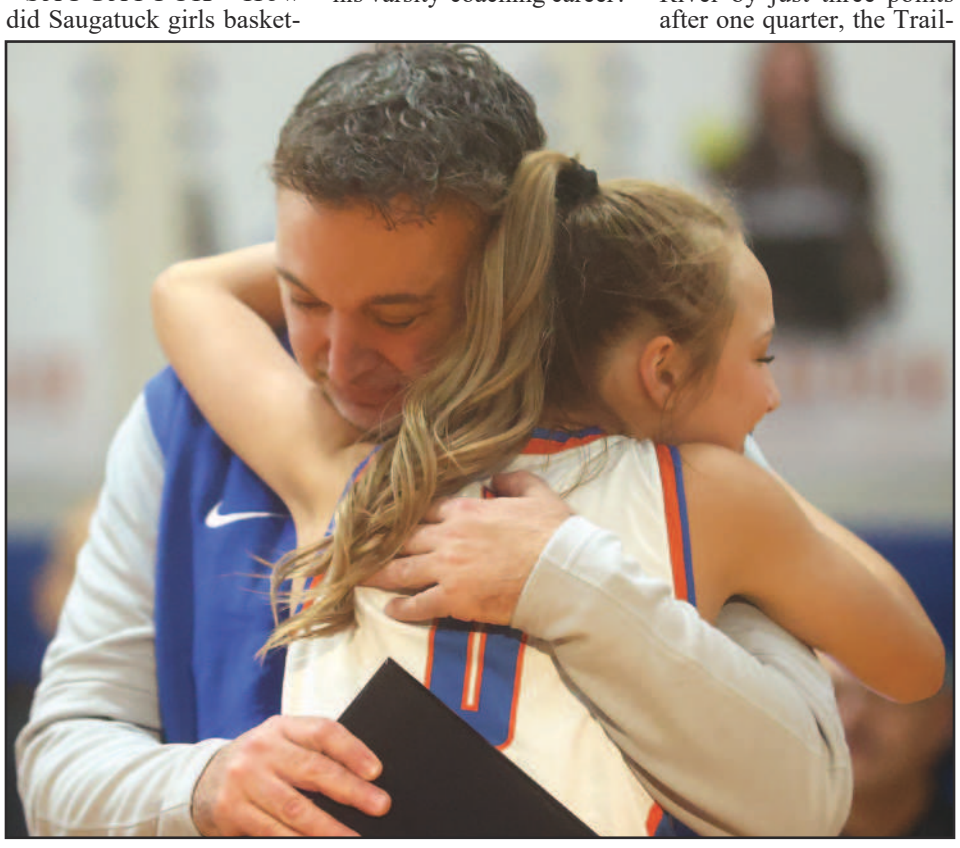
Trailblazers win on night Tringali is honored for 200th

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

SAUGATUCK—How did Saugatuck girls basketball coach Kevin Tringali celebrate being honored for recording the 200th win of his varsity-coaching career?

By collecting win No. 201.

Leading visiting Black River by just three points after one quarter, the Trailblazers pulled away in the second quarter en route to the 76-38 victory on Friday, Jan. 10.



Saugatuck girls basketball coach Kevin Tringali gets a hug from Penny Grob as Tringali is honored for his 200th coaching victory. (Photo by Scott Sullivan)

The ceremony for Tringali's milestone win came after the game and before the boys varsity game.

"I'm so honored and humbled to have coached so many wonderful young men and women here at Saugatuck," Tringali said. "Saugatuck schools is where my heart is and I am beyond grateful they have trusted me with this program."

And while the wins on the court are special, the relationships built off the court is the most fulfilling part of the job for Tringali.

"Any coach will tell you it's all about the relationships during your short time with (the players) and even more so as they grow and become young adults. I'm so fortunate to have done this at one place.

"Our admin, coaching staff and community have been so supportive over the years. It's been such a blessing to be a small part of it."

As for the game itself, the score was deadlocked at 16-16 before Mylah Simpson knocked down a buzzer-beater at the end of the first quarter to give Saugatuck the 19-16 lead.

The Trailblazer carried that momentum into the second quarter, using a 25-8 advantage to take the 44-24 halftime lead.

The win put Saugatuck at 4-0 in divisional play and 6-1 overall.

"All the respect in the world for (Black River) coach (Brent) Rowe and his team," Tringali said.

"They always give us their best as this game has turned into a great rivalry."

Simpson finished with 19 points. That was good for second on the team behind Natalia Laskowski's game-topping 25 points.

Three days earlier, Saugatuck played for the first time in 18 days following Christmas break and suffered the tough 50-43 road loss to Lawton. That ended what had been a five-game winning streak to open the season for the Trailblazers.

"Everyone we play is going to give us their best effort and Lawton certainly did that tonight," Tringali said. "This was a great test for us and although we didn't play our best, our kids never quit."

Tringali believes the loss will only make his team stronger in the long run.

"I can promise you we will learn from tonight and continue to get better," he said.

Simpson scored a team-high 13 points.

Local teams compete at Holland Christian Division 3 Invitational

Otsego's Liam Raseman was all smiles after his performance in the 500-yard freestyle. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

HOLLAND—Boys swim & dive teams from as far away as Detroit and Milan converged on the Holland Aquatic Center on Saturday, Jan. 11, for the annual Holland Christian Division 3 Invitational.

Four of the 12 teams in attendance were from Allegan County, with Hamilton posting the best showing with a fourth-place finish of 244 points.

Otsego was sixth with 150 points, while Plainwell was eighth (118 points) and Allegan was 10th (103 points).

Host Holland Christian won with 460 points, followed by East Grand Rapids (390) and Spring Lake (255).

Individually, Otsego's Liam Smith led the way with two event wins. He took top honors in the 200-yard IM (1:42.9) and the 100 butterfly (50.37).

"We had a great day," Otsego coach Darryl Belton said. "I was a little concerned in the beginning as our medley relays seemed a bit off. But we took off after that. Liam winning two events and breaking the team record in the 200 free was awesome."

Other medal-winning performances by Otsego included Willsun Fuller in the 100 fly (third at 53.93), Caleb Wesseldyk in diving (seventh at 314.35), Liam Raseman in the 500 free (seventh at 5:21.38) and the 200 medley relay team (seventh at 1:45.48).

■ see D3 Swim, Page B3

Plainwell's Sam Harper shows off the form that helped him win the 500-yard freestyle at the D3 Invitational at the Holland Aquatic Center. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Allegan's Quentin Edwards, Jr. drives to the basket in the game with Fennville. (Photo provided)

Allegan shakes off slow start to beat Fennville

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

When the Allegan boys basketball team hosted Fennville on Friday, Jan. 10, in marked the first game action for the Tigers in three weeks due to Christmas break.

And Allegan showed a little rust early, scoring just six points in the first quarter.

"After having 21 days between competition, we definitely started out super sluggish," Allegan coach Quentin Edwards said.

The second quarter was a different story.

The Tigers reeled off 21 points in the second stanza to take control in what was ultimately a 56-39 win over the Blackhawks.

The win moved Allegan to 6-3, including a 4-0 showing at home.

"We love playing at home in front of the home crowd," Edwards said. "The atmosphere is amazing with the band and all the fans. We always want to put on a show and I think we did that tonight."

The night was also special in that it was MVE—or Most Valuable Educator—Night, during which each player honored a school staff member who has made an impact on the.

"It was a great night for our guys," Edwards said.

Quentin Edwards Jr. led the charge for Allegan, scoring a game-high 19 points, including eight points in the second quarter. He also had five rebounds.

Jeremiah Edwards-Tate added 10 points, with Ayden Fusko and Liam Antoine going for six points each. Fusko pulled down a team-best six rebounds.

"We're getting into the tough leg of the schedule," Coach Edwards said. "So, it's good being back in the saddle."

Otsego upends Allegan in conference dual meet

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

With Christmas break over, the boys swim & dive teams from Otsego and Allegan returned to action on Tuesday, Jan. 7.

And it was the Bulldogs who prevailed, posting the 103-75 victory.

Otsego improved to 2-0 in Southwest and Central Michigan Swim League dual meets, while Allegan's record evened at 1-1.

"It was nice to swim and dive against someone other than ourselves," Otsego coach Darryl Belton said. "It had been three weeks since our last meet, and after all of the Christmas break work I was a little nervous as to how we would do.

"As it turns out, I had nothing to be nervous about."

Otsego didn't wait long to set the tone for the evening, as its 200-yard medley relay team of Dillon Campbell, Liam Smith, Willsun Fuller and Blake Guerrant opened the meet by winning with a time of 1:46.23.

"Getting our medley relay cut was nice," Belton said. "I think the boys were excited to do something other than practice."

Another highlight for Belton was the return of diver Caleb Wesseldyk, who missed the Bulldogs' first three meets while recovering from an injury.

Wesseldyk won diving with a score of 182.2.

"Having Caleb back on the boards for the first time since March was pretty cool," Belton said.

In addition to its win in the medley relay, Otsego also won the 200 and 400 free relays.

The 200 free team of Guerrant, Garrison Busscher, Tyler Campbell and Smith posted a time of 1:39.92, while the 400 free team of Dillon Campbell, Carson Bydash, Liam Raseman and Fuller finished at 3:51.15.

In individual events, Smith and Guerrant each had two wins: Smith took the 200 IM (1:56.13) and the 100 butterfly (51.13), while Guerrant won the 50 free (23.54) and the 100 free (52.01).

Allegan's Oliver Burnett (bottom) and Otsego's Dillon Campbell compete in the 500-yard freestyhle. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Fuller accounted for Otsego's other event victory, taking the 100 backstroke at 1:00.21.

"I thought we competed well and looked sharp," Belton said. "That is always difficult after a long break from competition."

Like Belton, Allegan coach Carol Gephart was happy with her team's performance after the long layoff.

"This meet was a testament to how far these boys have come since the start of the season," she said. "Their hard work over the holiday break is paying off, and they continue to push themselves to new heights.

"We are a young team, but their progress and determination are evident in every race."

Oliver Burnett secured two of Allegan's three event wins. After winning the 200 free (1:56.37), he won the 500 free (5:39.78).

Ezra Smith earned a win in the 100 breaststroke at 1:09.55.

Hot start leads Tigers past visiting Blackhawks

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Talk about getting off to a strong start.

With the Allegan girls basketball team hosting Fennville on Friday, Jan. 10, Tiger Bailey Meade knocked down three 3-pointers in the opening quarter.

That helped stake Allegan to the 17-5 lead at the end of the first quarter. And the Tigers cruised from there, earning the 56-18 victory.

Allegan led 28-7 at halftime.

Allegan's Jayden VandenAkker (right) disrupts a shot by Fennville's Lila Rosema. (Photo provided)

Meade finished with a game-best 14 points, including another triple in the second quarter.

"This was a big home win for us," Allegan coach Sharron Thompson said. "Our big first half really propelled us and we were able to hold off Fennville the rest of the way."

Maddie Antkoviak joined Meade in double figures with 12 points. That included a pair of 3s.

Ellis Ziemelis added five points, while Jayden VandenAkker chipped in with four points.

Lila Rosema scored a team-best six points for Fennville, with Ceeley Howard going for five points.

"Hopefully this gives us some momentum as we head into the games that are coming up," Thompson said.

On Tuesday, Jan. 7, Allegan dropped a tough 36-29 decision to Potter's House.

The game was knotted at 27-27 at the end of regulation, but the Tigers were outscored 7-2 in the overtime session.

"This was a tough loss," Thompson said. "The game was hard-fought by both teams and a little aggressive at times."

Allegan had a pair of free throws with no time left on the clock in the fourth quarter, but were unable to get the shots to fall.

"We had a chance but just came up a little short," Thompson said.

Antkoviak led the way for the Tigers with eight points, followed by Hayden Maka and VandenAkker with five each.

Martin girls cruise to win over Delton

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

MARTIN—After dropping two straight games and five of its past six contests, the Martin girls basketball team was hoping to get back on the winning track in its SAC contest with visiting Delton on Friday, Jan. 10.

Mission accomplished.

The Clippers jumped out to a 10-4 lead after one quarter and never surrendered the lead in earning the 50-27 victory.

"We got back on track tonight with a good team win," Martin coach Ben Schipper said. "We've been struggling lately with being in sync with each other on offense. I was very proud of the way we played together tonight. We looked for our teammates and had some good off-ball movement."

Avery Jager and Macy Thorne each knocked down three 3-pointers in the win. Jager finished with a game-best 15 points, while Thorne was close behind with 13.

"It was great for their confidence to see the ball go through the hoop tonight as we really need their scoring to take off in the heart of our schedule," Schipper said.

Marybeth Ritchie and Torryn Harris added six points each for Martin, which led 26-10 at halftime and 33-17 after three quarters.

"We've been stressing moving with urgency and I think the girls saw tonight how those hard cuts or purposeful attacks lead to opportunities," Schipper said. "We executed our press very well tonight causing several turnovers and crashed the offensive glass hard securing 17 offensive rebounds."

Ritchie led the way with 11 rebounds to go with six steals. Harris had eight rebounds, while Jager added seven.

On Tuesday, Jan. 7, the Clipper dropped a 53-29 decision to Hackett.

The game was deadlocked at 13-13 after one quarter, but Hackett used a 13-3 edge in the second quarter to pull away.

"We started out strong tonight, which I was very pleased with," Schipper said. "Starting slow has been a real issue for us this year so an energetic start was welcomed.

"Their press and size just wore us down quarter by quarter. We lost our starting point guard Alley Bacon in the second quarter to an injury. With Hackett pressing us pretty much the whole game, losing a ball handler definitely made things more difficult."

Anna Jager led Martin with nine points, followed by Harris with seven and Thorne with six.

"Anna was a bright spot for us," Schipper said. "We felt she brought some aggressiveness tonight both offensively and defensively, especially stepping in more with Alley going down."

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Bulldogs hold on for win over Trojans

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

The venue was new.

The level of competitiveness between the teams was the same as it's always been.

With the Plainwell girls basketball team hosting archrival Otsego at Plainwell new field house, the game went down to the wire before the Bulldogs were able to secure the 41-37 win.

Otsego coach Tony Koshar couldn't say enough about Plainwell's new facility.

"Kudos to Plainwell and their community," Koshar said in reference to the field house. "We really appreciate them having us as the first team to play here. It's a beautiful facility and I really think they did it right."

Senior Tessa Prough did a lot right for the Bulldogs during the game.

With Otsego clinging to a two-point lead late in the game's closing seconds, Prough blocked a shot and, on the ensuing possession, knocked down two free throws to seal the win.

"I told the girls afterwards it wasn't a Picasso by any means, but both teams play hard," Koshar said. "Both of our teams are very young, so we both have a lot of growing to do and you saw that.

"Tessa's our experience. She's been there and done that. We had a bit of a defensive miscue, but she recovered, got down there and got a nice clean block. And then the ball goes off their girl, so we get the ball."

Koshar drew up a play to get the ball in Prough's hands on the inbounds play.

"It wasn't run exactly the way it was drawn up, but we still got Tessa the ball and she came down with the (Plainwell) student section right in her face—which is a cool thing—and was able to knock down a couple of shots," Koshar said.

Prough said she did her best to treat the free throws like any others she's taken.

"When I was fouled, I just went up to the line like I normally do," she said. "I took a deep breath, cleared my head and shot my free throws."

Prough finished with a game-best 18 points to go with six rebounds, six steals and two blocks.

"I have a tendency to take Tessa for granted because I know she's going to show up and do her thing," Koshar said. "She was a point guard in middle school, so she can handle the ball. She's really learned the post over the past couple of years and continues to learn.

"For us, she's our absolute glue. She doesn't show a lot of emotion, but she showed some after the game and that was fun to see."

Mya Engbers and Audrey Lingbeek added six points each, while Madden Fitzpatrick had four points and a team-best 10 rebounds.

Alyssa Weldon and Anna Overway paced Plainwell with 11 and 10 points, respectively. Overway also had seven rebounds, which put her two behind Sophie Munch's nine and one behind Alayna Ranney's eight for best on the team.

"I thought both teams battled like they always do in this game," Plainwell coach Mark Stephenson said. "It was a great atmosphere with so many people coming out for the first game at the new field house. We would have liked the win, obviously, but it was still a hard-fought game between two rivals."

Otsego's Tessa Prough goes up for two of her game-high 18 points. (Photo by Tim Beason)

Balanced attack leads Saugatuck past Black River

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

A balanced scoring attack.

That was one of the keys to success for the Saugatuck boys basketball team in its home showdown with Black River on Friday, Jan. 10.

Six Trailblazers scored at least eight points—led by 14 from Cass Stanberry—to post the 66-47 victory.

The win snapped a three-game losing skid for Saugatuck, upping its record to 3-7.

"It was a good conference division win for us," first-year Saugatuck coach Ty Rock said. "We needed to match their physicality and we did just that."

Carter Miller and Misael Gamboa joined Stanberry in double figures with 12 and 11 points, respectively.

Sammy Gamboa was close behind with nine points, while Caiden Pearson and Jordan Hoshor checked in with eight points each.

And while he was pleased with the balance in the scoring column, Rock said there were other factors that played into the win.

"We got out in transition, controlled the glass and limited turnovers," he said.

Saugatuck secured a 15-8 lead after one quarter and built on that advantage by a little bit in each of the next two quarters. The Trailblazers were up 29-21 at halftime and 49-39 at the end of the third stanza.

But Saugatuck used a 17-8 run in the fourth quarter to pull away.

"There were some things I liked and some things we certainly need to improve on," Rock said. "We need to keep getting better each day."

Saugatuck's Jordan Hoshor (15) and his teammates battle for the loose ball in the game with Black River. (Photo by Scott Sullivan)

Allegan boys bowling splits pair of matches

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

The Allegan boys bowling team squared off with a pair of SAC Lakeshore Division opponents last week, coming away with a split decision.

After dropping a 26-4 decision to Parchment on Wednesday, Jan. 8, the Tigers regrouped to post the 16.5-13.5 win over Gobles the following day.

In the match with Gobles, Levi Creguer had the top score for Allegan. He rolling a 182 in the second game.

Brandon Moore led with the top two-game series score of 310.

Against Parchment, it was Mateo Perez who led the way, posting a 194 game. That represented a new personal best.

Kaiden Sullivan also finished with a new personal best.

D3 Swim ■ from Page B1

The top eight finishers in each event earned medals.

"The entire team kind of blew up and I believe everyone had at least one PR," Belton said. "(Diving coach) Bonnie Wallace was very excited about how the divers did and she can be fairly hard to please.

"It was important to have a meet like this and to have the boys be successful. Hard work pays off and this group has been working hard."

Hamilton medaled in all three relays, including runner-up showings in the 200 medley (1:40.55) and the 200 free (1:30.52). The Hawkeyes were eighth in the 400 free (3:39.88).

Jack Langeland was runner-up to Smith in the 200 IM (1:45.89) and the 100 fly (53:41), while teammate Justin Stark medaled in the 100 breaststroke (fourth at 1:04.71) and the 200 IM (seventh at 2:12.5).

Also earning medals for Hamilton were Brodie Brown (fifth at 339.15) and Jayden Bierschbach (eighth at 307.9) in diving; Owen Lewis in the 50 free (23.07); and Landen Maatman in the 100 back (eighth at 57.9).

Sam Harper was the star for Plainwell, as he won both the 200 IM (1:59.45) and the 500 free (4:39.61).

"This was a great meet for our team," Plainwell coach Andrea Murphy said. "This was the first time we have been invited for the boys team and I think it's a great experience for the boys. They are able to see some other teams and can feel what a big meet is like before the conference championship meet. It is great for our divers to be able to practice an 11 dive meet.

"We had a lot of time drops across the board, and Sam had a great 200 IM and set a new school record for the event.

Plainwell also placed sixth in the 400 free relay.

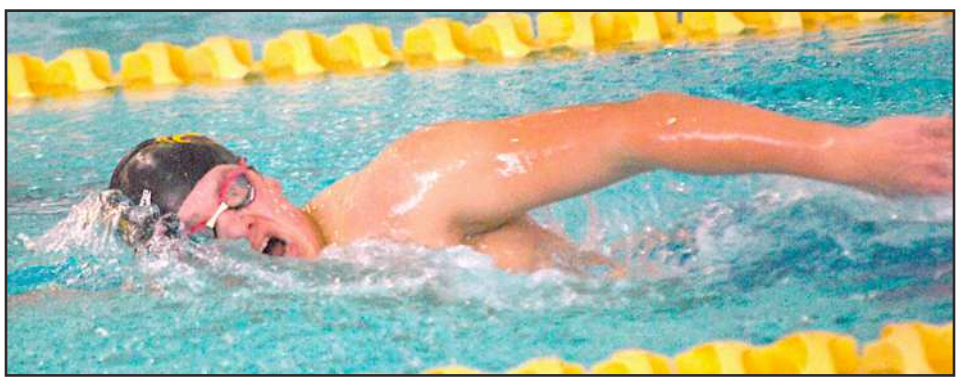
Allegan, meanwhile, placed in two of the three relays, as the Tigers were sixth in the 200 medley (1:44.38) and eighth in the 200 free (1:35.06).

Individually, Ezra Smith was fifth in the 100 breaststroke (1:05.01) and Oliver Burnett was sixth in the 200 free (1:54.02).

"Our team had an impressive performance," Allegan coach Carol Gephart said. "The team showed tremendous resilience and determination. The boys rose to the challenge today, racing with heart and courage.

"We saw significant time drops across the board, a testament to their hard work and dedication. Competing against some of the best teams in the state, they proved they belong on this stage."

Ezra Smith placed fifth in the 100-yard breaststroke for Allegan. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)



Reece Nykamp competes for Hamilton. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

City of Fennville Ordinance 2025-01

Ordinance to Regulate Food Trucks in the City of Fennville

At a regular meeting of the City Commission for the City of Fennville, Michigan, held at City Hall in Fennville, Michigan, on the 6th day of January 2025.

Present: C. Lopez. Sliter, Boeve, D. Lopez, Jamros, Langston
Absent: Machan

The following Ordinance was offered by Commissioner Sliter, and supported by Commissioner C..Lopez

WHEREAS, The City of Fennville Code of Ordinances does not specifically regulate the operation of mobile food vendors; and

WHEREAS/ the City a wishes to adopt regulations that set clear guidelines around the operation of mobile food vendors within City limits.

THEREFORE, the City of Fennville ordains:

City of Fennville
ORDINANCE 2025-01

MOBILE FOOD VENDORS ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF FENNVILLE, MICHIGAN FOR THE PURPOSE OF REGULATING THE OPERATION OF MOBILE FOOD VENDORS

SECTION 1. Purpose, The City of Fennville finds that mobile food vendors, colloquially known as food trucks, are an asset to Fennville as a community. In addition, the City has found that regulating the place, time, and manner of the operation of such mobile food vendors within City limits will further reinforce the positive benefits of such enterprises, while also precluding potential negative externalities that mobile food vendors can introduce.

SECTION 2. Definitions. For the purpose of their use in this ordinance, the following words and terms are hereinafter defined. Any word or term not defined herein shall be considered to be defined in accordance with its common or standard definition.

a) Mobile food vending: Vending, serving, or offering for sale food or beverages from a mobile food vending unit.

b) Mobile food vending unit; A vehicle, trailer, or other mobile structure (e.g., a cart) equipped to create, prepare, store, or package food for the purpose of vending, service, or offering for sale at a given location for more than 10 minutes at a time. This term is intended to include the vendors commonly referred to as “food trucks,” as welt as other similar types of mobile vendors. The term “mobile food vending unit” shall not include coffee, frozen dessert or ice cream trucks or other similar vehicles that move from place to place and are stationary in the same location for no more than 10 minutes at a time.

c) Mobile food vendor: Any individual, company, restaurant, or organization operating a mobile food vending unit.

d) Operates: Engaging in activities associated with the conduct of business, including setup and takedown.

SECTION 3. Permit Required.
a) No mobile food vendor shall operate a mobile food vending unit without a permit issued by the City Clerk authorizing such operation. The City Clerk shall prescribe the form of available permits and the applications for such permits, The City Commission may, from time to time, set the appropriate fee for such permits by resolution.

b) Notwithstanding the foregoing, no permit shall be required for a mobile food vending unit which is operated in the following circumstances:

1. In conjunction with a community event approved by the City Commission, and as explicitly approved by the organizers of the approved event.

2, In conjunction with a private event on a residential property, If all food and beverages are provided exclusively to guests of the private event and not to the general public.

Mobile food vendors operating under such circumstances shall still comply with the other provisions of this ordinance.

c) The City Commission may set from time to time, by resolution, a maximum number of permits that may be issued in a calendar year. If such limitations are established, the allocated permits shall be issued on a first-come first-serve basis based on the date and time on which each applicant submitted a complete application

SECTION 4. Duration of permits; non-transferability. Permits issued by the City Clerk shall be valid for one calendar year from the date of issuance and shall apply only to the mobile food vending unit identified on the permit. Any permit issued under this ordinance is nontransferable, Permit holders have no vested right in the renewal of such permit, and renewal may be subject to new conditions not included in the original permit,

SECTION 5. Application for permit, Any mobile food vendor desiring to engage in mobile food vending in the City shall submit a completed permit application to the City Clerk for a permit under this ordinance. The applicant shall truthfully state, in full, all information requested on the application for a permit issued by the City Clerk’s office. Additionally, the applicant shall provide all documentation as required by this ordinance or by the application form, The application for a permit shall be accompanied by a fee upon submission, as required by this ordinance and set from time to time by resolution of the City Commission.
Upon receipt of a permit application the City Clerk/ and other City staff as necessary, shall review the application and provide notice of approval or disapproval to the applicant within 30 days. Applications which are correctly filled out in full, and whose applicants meet ail of the requirements set by this ordinance, shall be approved.

SECTION 6. Requirements: Any mobile food vendor engaging in mobile food vending shall comply with the following requirements:

a) Mobile food vendors shall not operate in residential districts (R-l, R-2, RM, or RMH), excepting for private events as described in Section 3(b)(2) of this ordinance.

b) Mobile food vendors shall not operate on private property without first obtaining written consent from the owner of the property on which the vendor proposes to operate,

c) Mobile food vendors shall not operate on City-owned property or on public streets except at such times and in such locations as permitted by resolution of the City Commission, which may be adopted from time to time at the Commission s sole discretion either on its own initiative or upon application from an interested vendor.
Interested vendors should apply at least 30 days in advance of a date in which they hope to engage in mobile food vending under such circumstances. The City Commission will respond to applications within 30 days, To the extent it becomes necessary to designate specific mobile food vendors who may occupy a public location at any given time, the Commission may by resolution specify policies or practices for making such determinations.

d} No mobile food vending unit shaft impede visibility or the flow of vehicular, pedestrian or bicycle traffic in any location,

e} Mobile food vendors shall limit hours of operation to between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m., or, for mobile food vendors on City-owned property and public streets, as may be otherwise provided by resolution of the City Commission. No approved mobile food vending unit shall be left unattended on a public way, nor remain on a public way, outside of the allowed hours of operation.

f) No mobile food vendor shall use or maintain any outside sound amplifying equipment, lights, or noisemakers, such as bells, horns or whistles.

g) Mobile food vendors shall obey any lawful order of a police officer to move to a different permitted location to avoid congestion or obstruction of a public way or remove the mobile food vending unit entirety from the public way if necessary to avoid such congestion or obstruction.

h) Any power required for the mobile food vending unit located on a public way shall be self-contained and shall not use utilities drawn from the public right-of-way.

i) All waste liquids, garbage, litter and refuse shall be kept in leak-proof, nonabsorbent containers which shall be kept covered with tight-fitting lids and disposed of property, No waste liquids, garbage, litter or refuse shall be dumped or drained into sidewalks, streets, gutters, drains, trash receptacles, or any other place. A garbage receptacle shall be easily accessible for customer use. Each mobile food vending unit shall be equipped with sufficient garbage receptacles, and each mobile food vendor shall be responsible for collecting all litter/garbage and refuse left by customers and related to its products located within a fifty foot (50’) radius of the mobile food vending unit. Mobile food vendors may only use dumpsters inside City limits for waste disposal with written permission of the dumpster owner or user.

J) The mobile food vendor must comply with ail other applicable conditions and requirements imposed upon mobile food vendors under the law, must comply with City ordinances and state law, and shall make all required sales tax returns and other reports as required by state law. A permit obtained under this ordinance shall not relieve any mobile food vendor of the responsibility for obtaining any other permit or authorization required by any other resolution, ordinance, statute, or administrative rule.

SECTION 7. Prohibition unapproved operations during special events.
Regardless of permit holding status, mobile food vendors shall not operate within Cit/ boundaries during designated special events as specified by resolution of the City Commission. Mobile food vendors expressly approved for operations by special event organizers are exempt from this prohibition. Event organizers may approve limited hours of operation for a mobile food vendor during a special event. Such limited approval shall not be interpreted as allowing for operations for the entire duration of the special event,

SECTION 8. Vitiation as Civil Infraction.
Any person that violates this ordinance shall be responsible for a municipal civil infraction, subject to the penalties described in Section 1-15 of the City code of ordinances.

SECTION 9. Complaints, revocation or suspension of permit.
a) If a written complaint is filed with the City Clerk by an ordinance enforcement officer or citizen alleging a mobile food vendor has violated the provisions of this ordinance, the City Clerk shall promptly send a copy of the written complaint to the mobile food vendor together with a notice that an investigation will be made by the City Clerk, with the assistance of other City departments, as required, as to the truth of the complaint. The mobile food vendor shall be invited to respond to the complaint and present evidence and respond to evidence produced by the investigation. If the City Clerk, after reviewing all relevant material, finds the complaint to be supported by a preponderance of the evidence, the complaint shall be certified.

b) The City Clerk may revoke or suspend the permit of any mobile food vendor engaged in mobile food vending who ceases to meet any requirement of this ordinance or violates any other federal, state, or local law, ordinance, or regulation; makes a false statement on the permit application; or conducts activity in a manner that is adverse to the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare as evidence in a complaint certified pursuant to the subparagraph (a),

SECTION 10. Severability, The provisions of this ordinance shall be deemed severable and it is expressly declared that the City of Fennville Commission would have passed the other provisions of this ordinance irrespective of whether or not one or more of the provisions may be declared invalid; and if any provisions of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstances are held invalid/ the remainder of the ordinance and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby,

SECTION 11. Effective Date: January 22,2025

INTRODUCED by the City Commission of the City of Fennville on the 16th day of December, 2024.
ADOPTED by the City Commission of the City of Fennville on the 6th day January, 2025.

RECORD OF VOTE;
YES; All.
NO: None
ORDINANCE DECLARED ADOPTED

Carlos Lopez, Mayor

CERTIFICATE
I, the undersigned, the duly qualified Clerk of the City of Fennville, Allegan County, State of Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of proceedings taken at a regular meeting of the Commission of the City of Fennville, held on the 6th day of January, 2025, The original of which is on file in my office. Public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with Act 267, Public Acts of 1876, as amended.
WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my official signature this 6th day of January, 2025.

Alyssa Ramirez, City Clerk

Faces in the Crowd

By G C Stoppel

President Jimmy Carter passed away at the beginning of this year. What do you remember about him?

-Man at a gas station on M-89: "Not much. I was just a kid back then. I think he was a better former President than when he was in office."

-Another man, same location: "Well, this. The price of gas and the gas shortage. When I was in high school gas was about a quarter a gallon. Then he screwed things up and there was a shortage and the price went up to a dollar."

-Friend with him: "Inflation. That's always comes to mind when I think of him. Dad needed to take out a loan for spring planting and the interest rate was about 20 per cent. It nearly wiped him out."

-Woman near the Fennville grocery store: "You know who they're not talking about? His brother! Remember Billy Carter? Most people don't, and the media sure isn't talking about him. He was an embarrassment to the Carters and the nation. Him and his Billy Beer. I wonder if collectors are still interested in the cans."

-Couple near the Blue Goose: Man: "He was goofy. All that talk about UFO." Woman: "And that 'lusting in my heart' business. Even if he did, he should have kept his trap shut about it. That wasn't right. Not at all."

-Woman near the Allegan Public Library: "I think he made a better x-President than a real one. He had a heart and did a lot of good around the world. I really admire him."

-Man near A-Tech: "He was sort of hapless. I mean, he gave us high inflation, high gas prices, and then the Iran Crisis and the American hostages."

-Friend with him: "Yeah, you always remember the bad stuff. But he got Egypt and Israel to sit down together to stop some of the problems in the Middle East, too."

-Man near the Huntington Bank: "I'll tell you what disgusts me: Trump wanting to raise the flags back up because he said it would make us feel bad. *(U&^YT%R All he wants is the attention on him. Carter wasn't like that. We need more good examples like him."

-Woman near Allegan City Hall: "All the good he did around the world and Habitat for Humanity. He put his faith in Jesus Christ into action building houses and caring for people. Oh, and teaching Sunday school at his home church. That's the stuff that counts."

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Public Notices

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on February 6, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Matthew Eldean and Jami Eldean, husband and wife and Matthew Eldean, Trustee of the Matthew Eldean Trust Dated 12/19/2002

Original Mortgagee: Lake Michigan Credit Union

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): None

Date of Mortgage: August 26, 2015

Date of Mortgage Recording: October 23, 2015

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $294,999.91

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Laketown, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: That part of the East 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 2, Town 4 North, Range 16 West, Laketown Township, Allegan County, Michigan, described as: Commencing at the West 1/4 Corner of said Section 2; thence South 89 degrees 16 minutes 58 seconds East 2649.64 feet along the North line of said Southwest 1/4 to the Central 1/4 Corner of said Section 2; thence South 00 degrees 03 minutes 10 seconds West 805.00 feet along the East line of said Southwest 1/4 to the place of beginning; thence South 00 degrees 03 minutes 10 seconds West 366.34 feet along said East line; thence North 89 degrees 56 minutes 50 seconds West 578.31 feet; thence Northwesterly 67.99 feet along the arc of a 60.00 foot radius curve to the left, the chord of which bears North 34 degrees 18 minutes 26 seconds West 64.41 feet; thence Northwesterly 46.17 feet along the arc of a 50.00 foot radius curve to the right, the chord of which bears North 40 degrees 19 minutes 03 seconds West 44.54 feet; thence Northwesterly 34.55 feet along the arc of a 383.00 foot radius curve to the left, the chord of which bears North 16 degrees 27 minutes 04 seconds West 34.54 feet; thence North 69 degrees 24 minutes 38 seconds East 698.15 feet to the place of beginning, Laketown Township, Allegan County, Michigan.

Common street address (if any): 4657 Arbor Trl, Holland, MI 49423-8901

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: January 2, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1549014
(01-02)(01-23)

FORECLOSURE NOTICE Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 09:00 AM, February 6, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by The Edward A Korson, Single, Living Trust, Dated 08/24/1999 to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for loanDepot.com, LLC, its successors and assigns , Mortgagee, dated May 14, 2021, and recorded on September 7, 2021, in Liber 4667, Page 421, Allegan County Records, said mortgage was assigned to Nationstar Mortgage LLC by an Assignment of Mortgage dated December 03, 2024 and recorded December 11, 2024 by Document Number: 2024018338, , on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Two Hundred Seventy Thousand Six Hundred Fifty-Three and 83/100 ($270,653.83) including interest at the rate of 2.99000% per annum. Said premises are situated in the Township of Saugatuck, Allegan County, Michigan, and are described as: Unit 1, Brookwood Estates, according to the Master Deed recorded in Liber 1302, Page 123, Allegan County Records, as amended, and designated as Allegan County Condominium Subdivision Plan No 46, together with rights in the General Common Elements and the Limited Common Elements as shown on the Master Deed and as described in Act 59 of the Public Acts of 1978, as amended. Commonly known as: 3373 CLEARVIEW LN, SAUGATUCK, MI 49453 If the property is eventually sold at foreclosure sale, the redemption period will be 6.00 months from the date of sale unless the property is abandoned or used for agricultural purposes. If the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 and/or 600.3241a, the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of sale, or 15 days after statutory notice, whichever is later. If the property is presumed to be used for agricultural purposes prior to the date of the foreclosure sale pursuant to MCL 600.3240, the redemption period is 1 year. Pursuant to MCL 600.3278, if the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, the borrower(s) will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages are, if any, limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. Dated: December 26, 2024 Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C. Attorneys for Nationstar Mortgage LLC 43252 Woodward Avenue, Suite 180, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302, (248) 335-9200 Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Case No. 24MI00809-1

(12-26)(01-16)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on February 6, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Matthew Eldean and Jami Eldean, husband and wife and Matthew Eldean, Trustee of the Matthew Eldean Trust Dated 12/19/2002

Original Mortgagee: Lake Michigan Credit Union

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): None

Date of Mortgage: August 26, 2015

Date of Mortgage Recording: October 23, 2015

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $294,999.91

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Common street address (if any): 4657 Arbor Trl, Holland, MI 49423-8901

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: January 2, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1549014
(01-02)(01-23)

NOTICE OF DEFAULT AND FORECLOSURE SALE

WHEREAS, on December 21, 2012, a certain Mortgage was executed by Floyd Bowlby, Trustee of the Floyd Bowlby Trust U/A/D August 29, 2009 as mortgagor in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc (MERS) as nominee for American Advisors Group as mortgagee, and was recorded on January 9, 2013, in Liber 3694, on Page 727, in the Register of Deeds, Allegan County, Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the Mortgage was insured by the United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (the Secretary) pursuant to the National Housing Act for the purpose of providing single family housing; and

WHEREAS, the mortgage is now held by the United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, through mesne assignments as documented by an Assignment of Mortgage dated July 20, 2020, and recorded on September 21, 2020, in Liber 4512 on Page 987.

WHEREAS, the mortgage at Paragraph (9)(b)(i) states that Lender may require immediate payment in full of all sums secured by this Security Instrument if the property ceases to be the principal residence of a borrower for reasons other than death and the property is not the principal residence of at least one other Borrower; and

WHEREAS, the entire amount delinquent as of December 9, 2024 is $90,977.65; and

WHEREAS, by virtue of this default, the Secretary has declared the entire amount of the indebtedness secured by the Mortgage to be immediately due and payable;

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to powers vested in me by the Single Family Mortgage Foreclosure Act of 1994, 12 U.S.C. 3751 et seq., by 24 CFR part 27, subpart B, and by the Secretary's designation of me as Foreclosure Commissioner, recorded on August 2, 2024 in Book 4962, Page 660.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Thursday, February 6, 2025 at 9:00 am local time, the real property located in the Township of Otsego, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder:

Lot 7, River Grove Subdivision, in the Northwest quarter of Section 21 and the Northeast quarter of Section 20, Town 1 North, Range 12 West, Otsego Township, Allegan County Michigan. Excepting Liens and Conveyances affecting right of way in Liber 299 Deeds, on Page 505.

Commonly known as: 552 19th St, Otsego, MI 49078

Tax Parcel ID# 17-480-007-00

The sale will be held at Allegan County Courthouse, which is located at 113 Chestnut St., Allegan, MI 49010.

The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may bid any amount up to and including the total debt at the date as of the date of the sale, plus any and all amounts recoverable under the provision of the mortgage.

There will be no proration of taxes, rents or other income or liabilities, except that the purchaser will pay, at or before closing, his prorata share of any real estate taxes that have been paid by the Secretary to the date of the foreclosure sale.

When making their bids, all bidders except the Secretary must submit a deposit totaling 10% of the successful bid the form of a certified check or cashier's check made payable to Secretary of HUD. A deposit need not accompany each oral bid. If the successful bid is oral, a deposit of 10% must be presented before the bidding is closed. The deposit is nonrefundable. The remainder of the purchase price must be delivered within 30 days of the sale or at such other time as the Secretary may determine for good cause shown, time being of the essence. This amount, like the bid deposits, must be delivered in the form of a certified or cashier's check. If the Secretary is the highest bidder, he need not pay the bid amount in cash. The successful bidder will pay all conveying fees, all real estate and other taxes that are due on or after the delivery date of the remainder of the payment and all other costs associated with the transfer of title. At the conclusion of the sale, the deposits of the unsuccessful bidders will be returned to them.

The Secretary may grant an extension of time within which to deliver the remainder of the payment. All extensions will be for 15-day increments for a fee of $500.00, paid in advance. The extension fee shall be in the form of a certified or cashier's check made payable to the Secretary of HUD. If the high bidder closes the sale prior to the expiration of any extension period, the unused portion of the extension fee shall be applied toward the amount due.

If the high bidder is unable to close the sale within the required period, or within any extensions of time granted by the Secretary, the high bidder may be required to forfeit the cash deposit or, at the election of the foreclosure commissioner after consultation with the HUD representative, will be liable to HUD for any costs incurred as a result of such failure. The Commissioner may, at the direction of the HUD representative, offer the property to the second highest bidder for an amount equal to the highest price offered by that bidder.

There is no right of redemption, or right of possession based upon a right of redemption, in the mortgagor or others subsequent to a foreclosure completed pursuant to the Act. Therefore, the Foreclosure Commissioner will issue a Deed to the purchaser(s) upon receipt of the entire purchase price in accordance with the terms of the sale as provided herein. HUD does not guarantee that the property will be vacant.

The scheduled foreclosure sale shall be cancelled or adjourned if it is established, by documented written application of the mortgagor to the Foreclosure Commissioner not less than 3 days before the date of sale, or otherwise, that the default or defaults upon which the foreclosure is based did not exist at the time of service of this notice of default and foreclosure sale.

The mortgage cannot be "reinstated" prior to the sale, as the event accelerating the loan was not a default in payments. Payment of the entire outstanding balance of the mortgage debt is required to stop the foreclosure. The "outstanding balance" includes amounts that would be due under the mortgage agreement if payments under the mortgage had not been accelerated, including publication costs, posting costs and postage expenses incurred in giving notice, mileage by the most reasonable road distance for posting notices, reasonable and customary costs incurred for title and lien record searches, the necessary out-of-pocket costs incurred by the Foreclosure Commissioner for recording documents, a commission for the Foreclosure and all other costs incurred in connection with the foreclosure prior to the sale.

Date: _12/23/2024

Athena J. Aitas (P61824)

Foreclosure Commissioner for the United States

Secretary of Housing and Urban Development

3290 W. Big Beaver, Ste .117
Troy, MI 48084
STATE OF MICHIGAN)
COUNTY OF OAKLAND) SS.

On this 23rd day of December, 2024, before me, a Notary Public in and for Oakland County, appeared Athena J. Aitas, Foreclosure Commissioner for the United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, to me personally known and being duly sworn did say that said instrument was signed and acknowledged the same to be her free act and deed.

Shanon Marcella, Notary Public

Oakland County, MI acting in Oakland County, MI

My Commission expires: 06/07/2027

Drafted by and when recorded return to:
Athena J. Aitas (P61824)
Hladik, Onorato & Federman, LLC
3290 W. Big Beaver, Ste. 117
Troy, MI 48084
CPL FHA Bowlby/ 24-02172

1-2 1-16

STATE OF MICHIGAN
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN

WALTER P. ALEXANDER, Plaintiff.
V
FRANK W. WEBER AND LULU WEBER, DECEASED, and THEIR HEIRS AND ASSIGNS,
Defendants.

Donald H. Passenger (P39384)
Joseph J. Grzybowski (P52684)
Passenger Law PLLC
Attorneys for Defendant
1555 Arboretum Drive, SE, Suite 101
Grand Rapids, MI 49546
(616) 965-7557
dp@donplaw.com
joegriz.dp@gmail.com
Asst. jb@donplaw.com

SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION

Plaintiff may serve process on Defendant by publishing the following notice once each week for a period of three consecutive weeks in a newspaper, as defined in MCR 2.106(F), that is published in Allegan County with the following content:

"Attention: HEIRS AND ASSIGNS of FRANK W. WEBER AND LULU WEBER (the Defendants) with respect to a property on 120th Avenue, Allegan, Michigan 49010 (the Property), legally described as: E 1⁄2 of S 50 A W1⁄2 SW 4 SEC 8 T2N

R12W, Allegan County, Michigan.

An action to quiet title to the property against the above Defendants in the name of Walter Alexander, Plaintiff, as successor to Walter P. Alexander, has been filed in Allegan County Circuit Court. Unless a person claiming an interest in the Property takes action to respond to the complaint filed in this case, then all rights any such person(s) hold in the Property will be forever barred. To receive a copy of the summons and complaint in the matter, please contact Donald H. Passenger of Passenger Law PLLC, 1555 Arboretum Dr, Ste 101, Grand Rapids, MI 49504, dp@donplaw.com, and/or 616-965-7557, and provide an answer to the complaint

within twenty-eight days after the last publication of this notice."

This notice is to be published on three consecutive weeks (i.e. week of 1/6/2025; week of 1/13/2025; and week of 1/20/2025).

1-9 1-22

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM on FEBRUARY 6, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by David Christopher Cooper, individual, to PNC Bank, National Association, Mortgagee, dated September 14, 2022 and recorded September 29, 2022 in Liber 4802, Page 617 Allegan County Records, Michigan. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Sixty-Four Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy and 55/100 Dollars ($64,870.55).

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the place of holding the circuit court within Allegan County, Michigan at 9:00 AM on FEBRUARY 6, 2025.

Said premises are located in the City of Fennville, Allegan County Michigan, and are described as:

LOT 15 OF ATWATER'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF FENNVILLE, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN LIBER 2 OF PLATS, PAGE 14.

229 Wilson Street, Fennville, Michigan 49408

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.

Dated: January 9, 2025
File No. 24-016425
Firm Name: Orlans PC
Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400
(01-09)(01-30)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Trust Estate
("Decedent") Bernard G. Haveman

Date of Decedent's Birth: September 15, 1935

Name of Trust: Bernard and Helen Haveman Living Trust dated March 18, 2014

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: Decedent, Bernard G. Haveman, died September 3, 2024. There is no personal representative of Decedent's estate to whom Letters of Authority have been issued. Creditors of Decedent are notified that all claims against the Decedent, Decedent's estate, and/or Decedent's trust(s) will be forever barred unless presented to Sarah Essenburg and/or Linda LaFleur, Trustee, within four (4) months after the date of publication of this notice.

Dated: 1/16/2025
Sarah Essenburg
4415 47th St.
Holland, MI 49423
Linda LaFleur
230 S. State St. #90
Zeeland, MI 49464
Jason W. Wesseling (P85634)
WESSELING & BRACKMANN P.C.
6439 28th Avenue
Hudsonville, Michigan 49426
(616) 669-8185

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF ALLEGAN
FILE NO. 24-65363-DE
Estate of Ann Gould Gray, deceased

Date of Birth: Jan 26, 1944 TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Ann Gould Gray died 6/28/2024

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be barred unless presented to Carissa Gray-Sobol, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date : January 28, 2025.
Heidi L. Wolf, P52011
1244 Lincoln Road
Allegan, MI 49010
269-673-2105
Carissa Sobol-Gray

FORECLOSURE NOTICE (ALL COUNTIES) AS A DEBT COLLECTOR, WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: IF YOU ARE A MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER ON ACTIVE DUTY, IF YOUR PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY HAS CONCLUDED LESS THAN 90 DAYS AGO, OR IF YOU HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY, PLEASE CONTACT THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PARTY FORECLOSING THE MORTGAGE AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER STATED IN THIS NOTICE. Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement – Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM a.m./p.m. on February 20, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default having been made in the terms and conditions of a certain mortgage made by Timothy Scott Durand and Brenda S. Durand of Allegan County, Michigan, Mortgagor to Fifth Third Bank (Western Michigan) dated the 28th day of June, 2004, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds, for the County of Allegan and State of Michigan, on the 20th day of July, 2004, Liber 2707, Page 258, of the Allegan County Records on which mortgage there is claimed to be due, at the date of this notice, for principal of $40,190.31 plus accrued interest at 9.00000% percent per annum. Which said premises are described as follows: All that certain piece or parcel of land situated in the Township of Lee, in the County of Allegan and State of Michigan and described as follows to wit: Situated in the Township of Lee, County of Allegan, State of Michigan North 208.7 feet of West 208.7 feet of North 1/2 Northeast 1/4 Section 22, Town 1 North, Range 15 West. Commonly known as: 563 53rd Street, Pullman, MI 49450 Tax ID: 12-022-001-00 If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale the borrower, pursuant to MCLA 600.3278 will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. The redemption period shall be six months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. Dated: January 16, 2025 By: Benjamin N. Hoen #P-81415 Weltman, Weinberg & Reis Co., L.P.A. 5990 West Creek Road, Suite 200 Independence, OH 44131 Telephone: 216-739-5100 Fax: 216-363-4034 Email: bhoen@weltman.com WWR#: 24-001282-1

(01-16)(02-06)

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate

CASE NO. 2024-65385-DE and JUDGE Hon. Michael L. Buck

Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010

Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250

Estate of Loretta Ann Conway Date of Birth:*09/13/1943

TO ALL CREDITORS: **

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Loretta Ann Conway, died 10/25/2024 . Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Margaret M. Conway, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

01/06/2025
Stephanie S. Fekkes P43549
607 N. Broadway, Ste. A
Hastings, MI 49058
269-945-1921
Margaret M. Conway
c/o Rhoades McKee, 607 N. Broadway, Ste. A Address
Hastings, MI 49058
269-945-1921

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE TO CREDITORS REVOCABLE TRUST

In the Matter of: The Dale E. Schraeder Living Trust, u/a/d August 7, 2023

TAKE NOTICE: The Dale E. Schraeder Living Trust ("The Trust") was established on August 7, 2023. The Settlor, Dale E. Schraeder lived at 216 Grant Street, Hopkins, MI 49328. Dale E. Schraeder was born on June 2, 1934, and died on December 10, 2024.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: Creditors of the Settlor, Dale E. Schraeder, and/or "The Trust" are notified that all claims against The Dale E. Schraeder Living Trust will be forever barred unless presented to: Trustee, Hopkins United Methodist Church, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Dated: January 7, 2025
David F. Kiel (P43048)
ORTON, TOOMAN, HALE, McKOWN & KIEL, P.C.
314 Trowbridge St., P.O. Box 239
Allegan, MI 49010
(269) 673-2136
Hopkins United Methodist Church, Trustee
c/o Mary M. Howard
322 N. Maple Street, PO Box 356
Hopkins, MI 49328

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF ALLEGAN
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
FILE NO. 25-65411-DE
Estate of Alva Jean Morgan, a/k/a Alva J. Morgan, Deceased

Date of Birth: 02/07/1954

NOTICE TO ALL CREDITORS: The decedent, Alva Jean Morgan, a/k/a Alva J. Morgan, lived at 1527 Fern St., Allegan, MI 49010, prior to her death on November 25, 2024.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Joshua Morgan, named personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut St. Allegan, MI 49010 and the named personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date: January 7, 2025
David F. Kiel (P43048)
Orton, Tooman, Hale, McKown & Kiel, P.C.
314 Trowbridge Street, P.O. Box 239
Allegan, MI 49010-0239
(269) 673-2136
Joshua Morgan, Personal Representative
3665-32nd Street
Hamilton, MI 49419

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF ALLEGAN
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
FILE NO. 25-65416-DE
Estate of Peggy Rose Arnsman, Deceased

Date of Birth: 4/3/1937

NOTICE TO ALL CREDITORS: The decedent, Peggy Rose Arnsman died on 12/1/2024.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Melvin Arthur Arnsman, named personal representative, or to both the probate court at 112 Chestnut St. Allegan, MI 49010 and the named personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date:01/09/2025
Michael J. Becker (P81132)
Orton, Tooman, Hale, McKown & Kiel, P.C.
314 Trowbridge Street, P.O. Box 239
Allegan, MI 49010-0239
(269) 673-2136
Melvin Arthur Arnsman, Personal Representative
PO Box 275
Hopkins, MI 49328
(269)792-9812

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate

CASE NO. 24-65332-DE and JUDGE HON. MICHAEL L. BUCK

Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010

Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250

Estate of HERMAN W. DELANO Date of Birth:*MAY 14, 1933

TO ALL CREDITORS: **

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, HERMAN W. DELANO, died JULY 11, 2024.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to BRIDGET BARTHOLOMEW, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

1/2/2025
JULIE A. SPRINGSTEAD WALTZ P47141
214 WASHINGTON STREET
HART, MI 49420
231 873-4022
BRIDGET BARTHOLOMEW
c/o Springstead Law Offices, P.C., 214 Washington St.
HART, MI 49420
231 873-4022

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961,

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9	8	6	7	5	3	4	2	1
5	2	3	6	4	1	9	8	7
8	4	7	9	6	2	5	1	3
3	9	5	1	8	4	7	6	2
2	6	1	5	3	7	8	9	4
7	5	2	8	1	9	3	4	6
4	1	8	3	7	6	2	5	9
6	3	9	4	2	5	1	7	8

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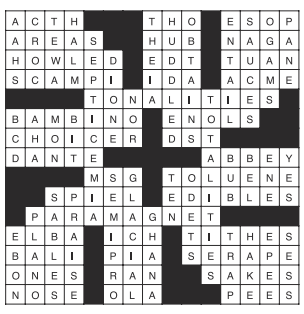

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Public Notices

Continued from, Page B6

1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the Circuit Court in Allegan County, Michigan, starting promptly at 9:00 a.m., on Thursday, February 20, 2025. The amount due on the Mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default has been made in the conditions of a certain Mortgage ("Mortgage") and Note ("Note") made by David W. Angeles, an unmarried man, and Shirley R. Haynes, an unmarried woman, whose address is 118 South Street, Fennville, Michigan 49408 ("Mortgagor"), in favor of AAC Credit Union, which address is 904 Broadway N.W., Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504 ("Mortgagee"). The Mortgage is dated September 30, 2019, and recorded on October 4, 2019 in the Allegan County Register of Deeds, in Liber 4388, Page 157. As of January 16, 2025, the amount claimed to be due under the Mortgage is the sum of One Hundred Twenty Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty Nine and 66/100 Dollars ($128,969.66), including interest at the rate per annum set forth in the Note, and attorney fees. This sum will increase as additional interest, costs, expenses, and attorney fees accrue under the Mortgage and Note and which are permitted under Michigan law. Under the power of sale contained in the Mortgage, and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that the Mortgage will be foreclosed by sale of the mortgaged premises at public sale to the highest bidder at the Allegan County Courthouse, which address is 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, Michigan 49010, and which is the place of the holding of the Circuit Court for Allegan County, State of Michigan, on Thursday, February 20, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. The property subject to the Mortgage is situated in the City of Fennville, County of Allegan, State of Michigan and legally described as follows: The North ½ of Lots 13 and 14 in Hutchin's Addition, according to the plat thereof recorded in Liber 2 of plats, Page 8, Allegan County Records. Parcel Address: 118 South Street, Fennville, Michigan 49408 Parcel Tax ID: 03-52-400-013-50 If the property is eventually sold at foreclosure sale, the redemption period will be six (6) months from the date of sale, unless the property is abandoned or used for agricultural purposes. If the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 and/or 600.3241a, the redemption period can be shortened in accordance with Michigan law. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the Mortgagor and any other person liable on the Mortgage will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Dated: January 16, 2025 MORTGAGEE: AAC CREDIT UNION 904 BROADWAY N.W. GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN 49504 Attorneys for Mortgagee: Kreis, Enderle, Hudgins & Borsos, P.C. By: Jeffrey D. Swenarton 750 Trade Centre Way, Suite 250 Portage, Michigan 49002

(01-16)(02-06)

FORECLOSURE NOTICE Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 09:00 AM, February 20, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Timothy James Ketchum to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for loanDepot.com, LLC, its successors and assigns , Mortgagee, dated April 7, 2023, and recorded on April 12, 2023, in Liber 4848, Page 506, Allegan County Records, said mortgage was assigned to loanDepot.com, LLC by an Assignment of Mortgage dated February 28, 2024 and recorded February 29, 2024 in Liber 4923, Page 209, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Seventy-Three Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty-Four and 24/100 ($173,954.24) including interest at the rate of 6.62500% per annum. Said premises are situated in the Township of Hopkins, Allegan County, Michigan, and are described as: That part of the Southwest 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 29, Town 3 North, Range 12 West, Hopkins Township, Allegan County, Michigan, described as beginning at a point on the West line of Section 29, being South 01 degree 00 minutes 12 seconds East 1312.39 feet from the West 1/4 corner of Section 29; Thence continuing South 01 degree 00 minutes 12 seconds East 219 feet; Thence North 89 degrees 50 minutes 48 seconds East 198.93 feet; Thence North 01 degree 00 minutes 12 seconds West 219 feet to the North line of the Southwest 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 29; Thence on said North line Section 89 degrees 50 minutes 48 seconds West 198.93 feet to the place of beginning. Commonly known as: 2657 22ND ST, HOPKINS, MI 49328 If the property is eventually sold at foreclosure sale, the redemption period will be 6.00 months from the date of sale unless the property is abandoned or used for agricultural purposes. If the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 and/or 600.3241a, the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of sale, or 15 days after statutory notice, whichever is later. If the property is presumed to be used for agricultural purposes prior to the date of the foreclosure sale pursuant to MCL 600.3240, the redemption period is 1 year. Pursuant to MCL 600.3278, if the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, the borrower(s) will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages are, if any, limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. Dated: January 16, 2025 Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C. Attorneys for loanDepot.com, LLC 43252 Woodward Avenue, Suite 180, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302, (248) 335-9200 Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Case No. 24MI00406-1

(01-16)(02-06)

Peek at the Past

From the pages of The Allegan News and The Allegan County News and Gazette:

Jan. 16, 1950

Annual drive for Polio Fund started today: Ten thousand coin cards are in the mail today as well as 700 canisters to be placed in business places in the opening phase of Allegan County's annual March of Dimes campaign for polio funds.

Campaign workers got together for their annual supper meeting Friday at the Grange Hall. The 1950 campaign has a $10,000 goal and it is estimated that $7,127 will be needed to take care of victims of the 1949 epidemic that took place in the county.

There were 18 polio cases in the county in 1949, according to Irving Tucker, drive chairman. The county chapter paid out $11,879 for their care. Funds raised in the county amounting to $2,205 were exhausted March 1. Since then, county patients were cared for with money from the national organization.

Jan. 16, 1975

County's two Head Start programs only reach part of eligible children: Helping a youngster get a head start in life is the goal of the two county Head Start programs in Allegan and Saugatuck-Douglas.

But often the people who are trying to help that underprivileged youngster in Head Start—the teachers, the aides and the fund raisers—run into obstacles or handicaps that prevent the Head Start programs from reaching its full potential.

The biggest obstacles are lack of more federal funds to serve the more than 200 kids eligible in the county for Head Start, a lack of parental participation in Head Start and a misconception by parents that Head Start is some sort of "charity" thing that they should feel ashamed of admitting their child to.

None of these problems are earthshaking to the Head Start programs. They will continue one way or another, Head Start officials say. But they are preventing the Head Start programs from reaching out to more children, parents and the community in general.

Jan. 20, 2000

Allegan men participate in giving free health care: Shawn Phelps of Allegan has been all over the world.

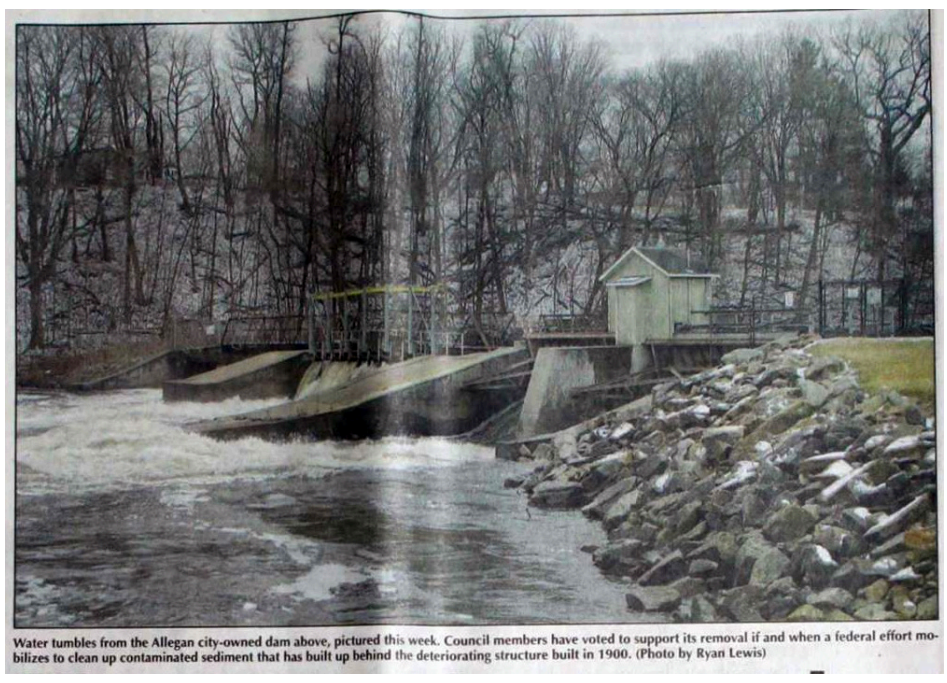
He hasn't traveled just to see the sights and relax in an environment away from home. He isn't going away as a means to get away from work, either.

In fact, he's taking his work with him.

As a registered nurse in the emergency department at Borgess Medical Center, Phelps is doing very much the same work he does at home when he leaves the country. In these other countries, however, he has to work in much more primitive conditions.

Phelps and his son Sawyer, 15, recently returned from three weeks in India with Remote Area Medical, an organization that travels all over the world to bring medical supplies with them and to give people access to free health care.

It began when Stan Brock, a co-host on the television show "Wild Kingdom," spent several years in the Amazon living among remote tribes, Upon seeing the poor conditions, Brock decided to start an organization to help people who live in unhealthy conditions without medical care.



Water tumbles from the Allegan city-owned dam above, pictured this week. Council members have voted to support its removal if and when a federal effort mobilizes to clean up contaminated sediment that has built up behind the deteriorating structure built in 1900. (Photo by Ryan Lewis)

Jan. 16, 2020

Allegan votes to remove dam: Allegan City Council has publicly pledged support for removing the former hydroelectric dam in the mill district.

The 6-1 vote on Monday, Jan. 13, came with two oft-repeated caveats: that city council members agree on how the riverfront will be reshaped once the dam and former powerhouse are removed and that the project does not burden city finances.

Relatively little discussion surrounded the topic as compared to the public input hearings and other council meetings involving the dam's removal.

Before the vote, council member David Redding summed up by querying city manager Joel Dye, asking, "It was built to supply power to the mill district? … It no longer provides power and is a dangerous liability?"

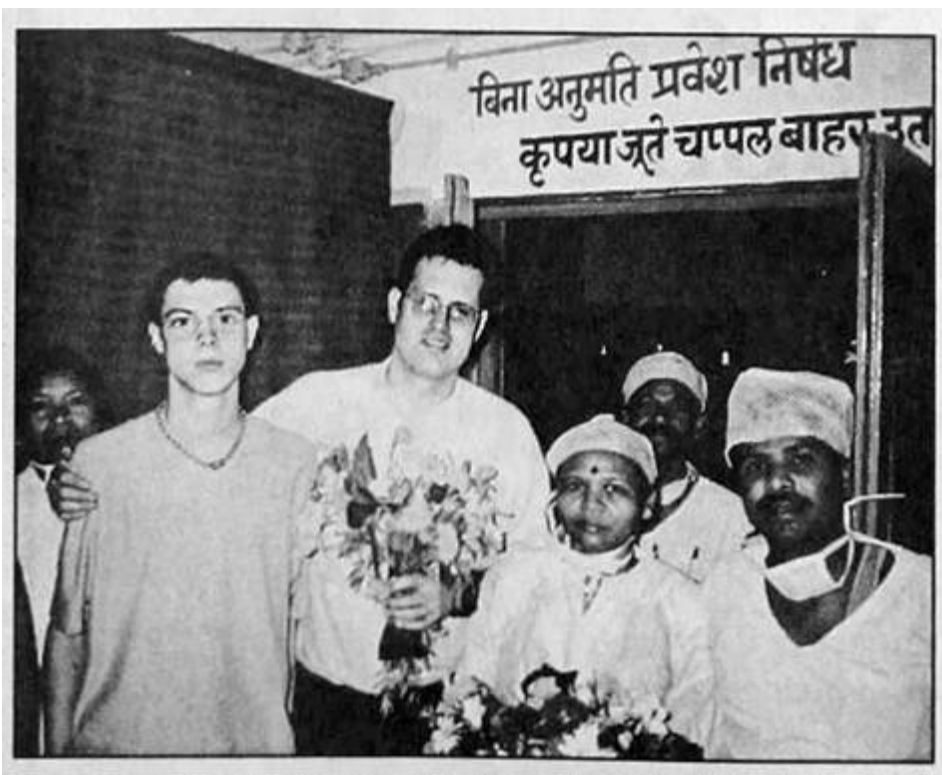
Dye responded, "Correct."

The only member of the public to speak was resident Marcia Behm, who encouraged council members to take into consideration everyone's views on the issue and to make sure they are "not doing this for one particular thing."

"Hopefully you're really taking into consideration what it's going to do for Allegan."

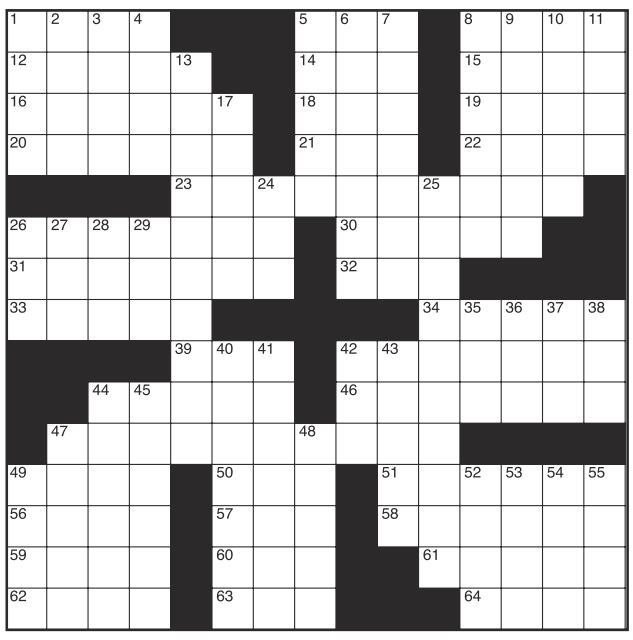
Recent time-critical work to remove sediment upstream in Otsego prompted officials to approach Allegan about the dam's removal. A recent $245 million settlement with a company that bears the liability for polluting the river showed how cleanups and dam removals could be funded.

—Compiled by Jason Wesseldyk



Sawyer and Shawn Phelps (second and third from left) stand with some of the hospital staff they worked with during their trip to India with Remote Area Medical. (Photo provided)

Crossword



CLUES ACROSS
1. This regulates cortisol production (abbr.)
5. People of northern Vietnam
8. Employee stock ownership plan
12. Regions
14. The center of a city
15. Hindu serpentine deity
16. Roared
18. Sun up in New York
19. 'Sir' in Malaysian
20. Shrimp dish
21. Muckraker Tarbell
22. Apex
23. Harmonic effects
26. One of Babe Ruth's nicknames
30. Groups in organic chemistry
31. More pleasant-tasting
32. Spring forward
33. Noted writer
34. Building occupied by monks
39. 'The world's most famous arena'
42. Colorless liquid hydrocarbon
44. Long or fast speech
46. Things you can eat
47. Substance in which magnetic moments are not aligned
49. Actor Idris
50. I (German)
51. Taxes
56. Indonesian island
57. Nuisance (slang)
58. Shawl
59. Digits
60. Moved on foot quickly
61. "For goodness __'
62. Facial body part
63. Russian river
64. Urinates

CLUES DOWN
1. Partner to 'oohs"
2. Scaly water dweller
3. Pueblo people of New Mexico
4. Music producer Teo
5. Greek mythological goddess
6. Got together to discuss
7. Acquires
8. Involve
9. Some are tomato-based
10. Old Irish alphabets
11. A sheet of glass in a window or door
13. Blood poisoning
17. A moon of Saturn
24. Neither
25. Sums
26. They follow 'A'
27. Satisfaction
28. People of southeastern Burma
29. Small amount
35. Guy (slang)
36. Sound unit
37. Midway between northeast and east
38. Affirmative
40. Almost at the top
41. Extremely slow
42. Pearl Jam's debut album
43. Influential mid-century playwright
44. Martens
45. Approval
47. Dallas-adjacent Texas city
48. African nation
49. Dark brown or black
52. A place to get caught
53. Large-headed, elongated fish
54. Type of sword
55. Scottish tax or levy

(See Solution Page B6)

Deaths

Dec. 13, 2024
Jeffrey Scott Johnson, 61, Casco Twp.

Dec. 23, 2024
Marylynn Webster, 65, Laketown Twp.
Henrietta May Everson, 95, Plainwell

Dec. 26, 2024
Henry Edward Stueker, 78, Manlius Twp.

Dec. 27, 2024
Craig Allen Strick, 74, Allegan Twp.
Eva Marie Cain, 87, Dorr Twp.
Donald Edward Whitmore, 88, Holland
Kathleen Mary Horgan, 74, Holland

Dec. 28, 2024
Susanna Kay Kaminski, 86, Dorr Twp.
Thomas Schooley Alfred, 79, Martin Twp.
Elisabeth H Stewart, 94, Holland
Gregory Don Keyser, 77, Saugatuck
Patricia Lynn Gruber, 62, Casco Twp.

Dec. 29, 2024
Marguerite Lillian Kramer, 95, Holland
William Albert Bowne, 86, Casco Twp.

Dec. 30, 2024
Mary Jean Mast, 87, Douglas
Jeffrey Mark Webb, 67, Allegan

Dec. 31, 2024
Gerrit Scholten, 82, Leighton Twp.
Mary Beth Anible, 64, Plainwell
Warren Gregg Dalman, 95, Holland

Jan. 1, 2025
John David Lorence, 75, Holland

Jan. 3, 2025
Marc Alan Barton, 69, Otsego Twp.

Jan. 4, 2025
Delbert Duane Janke, 94, Allegan Twp.
Stanley James Overbeek, 93, Holland

Marriages

The following people applied for a marriage license between Dec. 31 and Jan. 8:

TERRY LEE PERYSIAN, Hamilton, and **RUTH ANNE IDETTE COOKE**, Hamilton

JOSHUA STEVEN KROEZE, Plainwell, and **NICOLE RENE HAMMOND**, Plainwell

GERRIT WAYNE WAANDERS, Allegan, and **DAMENICK WOODARD**, Pullman

AVAANNE ELIZABETH SUTHERLAND, Otsego, and **JAMES LUIS VAZQUEZ**, Kalamazoo

DANIEL ROSS KOCKA, South Haven, and **LAUREN THERESE CONNER**, South Haven

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						4		
					1	9	8	
	4				2			3
3	9			8		7		
2	6		5					
	5					3		6
4			3	7				
6								8

(See Solution Page B6)

RELIGION SECTION

I took a different approach this week. I asked AI (artificial intelligence) to critique itself on its ability to write a sermon.

Artificial Intelligence is now part of our world, and becoming increasingly prevalent in science and technology, research, and the visual arts. It is here to stay until even newer advances come along.

In the past, before the internet, students and writers relied on books, newspaper and magazine articles, encyclopedia and other printed resources. Later, we learned to use Ask Jeeves, and finally Google to find sources that we hoped would prove useful. All of that is becoming passé and old hat as we increasingly turn to AI.

Does AI have a legitimate place in church? Might it become the lazy preacher's go-to method to prepare a sermon? If a cleric is planning to preach from a specific passage in the Bible, or even a wide-sweeping theme, all it takes is to turn to AI and give the instruction to write 500-word sermon on…… No more long hours studying, making notes and writing! It looks appealing, even wonderful, or is it a truly wicked idea?

I turned to ChatGPT and instructed it to critique itself on its ability to write a homily. The main question was whether an AI generated sermon is inspired in the traditional spiritual sense. For centuries, the Church believed that all sermons should be inspired by a human preacher and delivered by a human. What are the benefits and problems of "Reverend AI?"

AI can do the work. However, the message told me that it is devoid of consciousness and a sense of human spirituality. Thus, many theologians and lay people believe the capacity for divine inspiration is missing. Every preacher has worked long and hard on a sermon that turned out to be a frizzle. At one time or another, every layperson has suffered through disappointment.

Fizzle or not, preaching is not merely an intellectual exercise, but the willingness of the preacher to interpret the vital messages within God's word. Much of the preparation work is the result of the preacher's own spiritual life and experiences. Sometimes it is tailored for the unique needs or concerns of a congregation. In short, it is the blend of theology and a personal awareness of both the scripture and the congregation.

When I asked my question, much to my surprise, it replied, "It could be argued that AI serves as a tool through which God can work, just as He does through other human-created tools like books or instruments. When AI generates a sermon, the preacher must critically engage with its concerns, discerning its alignment with scripture and the needs of the congregation…. AI sermons are not a replacement for human agency but a potential aid that requires human oversight."

That makes very good sense. It is a tool, and like all tools, it is ultimately a gift from God, which must be used wisely.

G C Stoppel
Priest Associate
Episcopal Church of the
Good Shepherd, Allegan, MI

Directory of Area Churches

Allegan Assembly of God
424 DeLano St, Allegan
Pastors Tim Heath & Paul Hays
Church: 673-6577

Allegan Bible Church
412 S. Sherman, Allegan
Pastor Jon Gruss
Church: 673-6831

Allegan Christian Center
700 Ely St., Allegan
Paul Knuckles, Pastor
Church: 673-2921

Allegan County Jail
Chaplain Sarah Montgomery
Phone: 673-0350

Allegan United Methodist Church
Corner Walnut & Trowbridge streets, Allegan
Pastor Julia Humenik
Church: 673-4236;

At the Master's Feet
814 21st St., Otsego
269-694-6897
Paster Ray Brown

Blessed Sacrament Church
110 N. Cedar Street, Allegan
Fr. Simon Manjooran
Church: 673-4455

Bloomingdale Bible Church
210 Chestnut at Pine NW
Bloomingdale
Ofc. 269-427-2101

Bravo Community Church
5587 113th Ave., Fennville
Pastor Duane Terpstra
616-886-1214

Burnips United Methodist
4241 30th, Burnips
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
616-896-8410

Casco United Methodist Church
880 66th Street, South Haven
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
269-227-3328
www.cascoumc.org

Chicora Country Chapel
4399 108th Ave., Allegan
Pastor Herb Curry
Phone: 521-7657

Christ Community Church
3370 113th Ave., Allegan
www.alleganccc.org ·
(269) 673-2329
Pastor Wally Coots

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
687 Linn Street, Allegan
Church: 673-9617

Church of God - Otsego
112 Kalamazoo St., Otsego
Pastor Stephen Burrow Sr.
269-694-9481
www.otsegocog.com

Corner Bible Church
4001 124th Allegan
673-5995
www.cornerbiblechurch.com

CrossWind Community Church
1632 142nd Avenue
Dorr, MI 49323
616-359-9013
Pastor Tommy Boutell

Dunningville Reformed Church
2559 M-40, Allegan
Church: 751-5894
Pastor Eric Burrows-Stone
dunningville.org/index.html

East Martin Christian Reformed Church
510-118th Ave., Martin
269-672-5746
www.eastmartincrc.org

Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
101 North Walnut St, Allegan
Office: 673-2254

Faith Baptist Church
2846 125th Ave., Allegan
John Looman, Pastor
673-5040 1-888-354-3272

Fennville Assembly of God
5897 124th Ave.
Fennville, MI 49408
269-561-2683

Fennville United Methodist Church
5849 124th St., Fennville
269-561-5048
Worship 11:00 a.m.
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

First Presbyterian Church
200 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church: 673-4631
www.fpcallegan.org
Pastor Sheri Harris
10:30 service time.

First Baptist Church
1290 32nd St., Allegan
Service at 10:00am
Pastors Nathan Smith & Brendon Bayley
www.fbcallegan.com

First Baptist Church of Otsego
247 E Allegan St., Otsego
(269) 694-4160
firstbaptist@fbcotsego.org

First Church of God
1313 Marshall Street, Allegan
269 673-3881
www.pathtohim.org
Pastor, Tim Secord

First Congregational Church
323 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church Office: 673-3139

First Congregational Church
120 W. Morrell St., Otsego
269-694-6085
Pastor Lenny Luchetti

First Presbyterian Church of Plainwell
303 East Bridge St.
Plainwell, MI 49080
Pastor Ruth Lowry 685-5990

Friendship Bible Church
104 Baker St., Hopkins, MI
Pastor Chris Cronk and Worship Pastor Tony Caldarona
Office 793-7929

Ganges Baptist Church
6577 122nd Avenue, Fennville
269-543-4203
11AM each Sunday

Grace Church of Hamilton
3690 Lincoln Rd. P.o. Box 97
Hamilton Mi 49419
269.264.4900
Gracechurchofhamilton@gmail.com

Haven Church
PO Box 1
4691 Oak Street, Hamilton
(269)751-7300
Pastor Mike Drew
FB:havenreformedchurch

Hope Lutheran Church
290 12th St., Plainwell
(269) 685-1348
Pastor Nicole Smith
Worship 10:30am; S. School 9:15am

Hopkins Community Reformed Church
2142 128th Ave., Hopkins
(269) 793-7361
hopkinscommunitychurch.net

Hopkins United Methodist Church
322 N. Maple St., Hopkins
(269) 793-7323
Pastor Kelsey French

Horseshoe Community Bible Church
4950 104th Avenue, Grand Junction
269-521-4580 ·
Pastor Don Miller

Immanuel Lutheran Church
631 Grand Street, Allegan
Church: 673-3335
Rev. Christopher Laughlin

Journey Family Church
514 W. Van Buren St. Gobles
628-2288
SSunday 9am and 11am
Rev. Gary Napp

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witness
2199 Taft Road, Allegan
Phone: 673-6179

Living Waters Community Church
5458 M-89, Fennville
Service: 10:30 Sundays
Pastor Andrew Leach
269-561-5277

M-40 North Church of God
1900 M-40, Allegan
Pastor Nathan Strom
Church: 673-4412

Martin Reformed Church
1073 W. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor: Matthew Hendricks
672-5596

Martin United Methodist Church
969 E. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor Margaret Stoken
269-672-7097
www.martinumc.org

Merson Church
3313 102nd Ave., Gobles, MI
Pastor Alan Carson
Office: 673-5274
www.mersonchurch.org

Montage Ministries
"A Community in Worship"
Griswold Auditorium
Tuesdays 6:30-8:00pm

Monterey Center United Methodist Church
3022 130th Ave.
Monterey Center, 49328
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
793-7288

Mt. Calvary M.B. Church
5425 105th Ave., Pullman
Pastor Everett Belue
269-382-3405

New Hope Baptist Church
2011 Lincoln Road (M-40 N)
Pastor Tadd Butler
673-1938

Northbridge Church
8824 Douglas, Kalamazoo
269-385-4378 ·
www.northbridge.cc

Northpoint Ministries
10976 M40 (M40/CR390)
Gobles MI · 269.628.9199
Pastor Gary Lounsberry
Sunday Worship: 11am

OAKLAND CRC
4460 38th Street
Hamilton. Mi. 49419
616 688 5290
Pastor Mark Vande Zande

Otsego United Methodist Church
223 E Allegan St. Otsego MI
10:00 a.m. Worship
Reverend Dan Minor
Otsegomethodistchurch.org

Peace Lutheran Church
805 S. Wilmott St., Otsego
www.peaceotsego.com
694-6104

Pearl United Methodist Church
1689 56th St., Fennville
269-561-5048 Worship 9:30 am
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

Iglesia de Dios Pentecostal M.I. Pentecostal Church of God I.M
2281 57th St, Fennville
Wed/Miércoles @ 7:00 pm
Sunday/Domingo @ 10:00 am
Worship Service @ 11:00am
Rev. Jeremias & Maribel Gaytan
231) 923-6887 - (231) 923-6959
Email: gytnj@yahoo.com

Plainwell First Baptist Church
404 W. Bridge St., Plainwell
(269) 685-8888
Pastor George Osborn

Plainwell First United Methodist Church
200 Park St. Plainwell
269-685-5113
www.fumcplainwell.com

Rectify Church
247 N. Main St., Allegan
616-218-1556
Pastor Sarah Montgomery

Refreshing Springs Ministries
201 Briggs St., Allegan
616-510-7416
Pastor Adrian Hall

Restoration Christian Community
Live service 10:00 am Sundays
RestorationChristianCommunity.org
Pastor Austin T Kreutz
269 567 8330

River of Life Church
605 W. Allegan, Otsego
269-672-9904
www.alleganchurch.com

Seventh Day Adventist Church
229 Cutler Street, Allegan
Dan Rachor, Pastor
Church: 673-3284

Shelbyville United Methodist Church
938 124th Ave., Shelbyville
672-7097 - Church office
Pastor Margaret Stoken

South Monterey United Methodist Church
Pastor Kelsey French
Church: 793-7323

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church
11850 9 Mile Rd., Shelbyville
269-664-4345
Service: Sundays 9:30 am

Saint John's Church Of God In Christ
716 Academy St, Allegan
Rev. Jeremiah Johnson Sr.
Phone: 673-8590—673-3007

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
1764 34th St., Allegan
Pastor Ronald Kruse 673-2079
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

St. Margaret's Catholic Church
766 S. Farmer St., Otsego
269-694-6311

Third Coast Community Church
www.thirdcoastff.org |
269.857.5633
6069 Blue Star Hwy, Saugatuck, MI 49453
Sunday Worship: 10:00am

Trowbridge Community Church
355 26th Street, Otsego
Pastor Mykel Hall, Pastor
Church: 673-5502

The River Flows with Hope and Healing
1652 M-40 North, Allegan
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

Unity Baptist Church
35 14 12th St. Wayland
Pastor Kelly Ryan
Cell # (269) 330-2217

Watson Bible Church
1626 116th St., Otsego
Pastor Tim Morris
672-2166

Wayland Community Church
502 West Superior, Wayland
(616) 877-6134
Worship Sunday @ 10:30am

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